

Classified Research To Stay Off Campus

By Jennifer Krishnan
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A faculty committee recently recommended that all classified research conducted by members of the MIT community be carried out off campus.

"We recommend that no classified research should be carried out on campus; that no student, graduate or undergraduate, should be required to have a security clearance to perform thesis research; and that no thesis research should be carried out in areas requiring access to classified materials," the committee, chaired by Institute Professor Sheila E. Widnall '60, wrote.

This is an affirmation of MIT's standing policy, said committee member and Institute Professor Jerome I. Friedman. Currently, no classified research is conducted on campus, no degree depends on

classified research, and "all theses can be made public," Friedman said. The committee concluded that this policy was reasonable, he said.

The report also recommended that the faculty establish a standing committee "to monitor restrictions on access to and disclosure of scientific information."

Issues arise in Sept. 11 aftermath

The committee was appointed by Provost Robert A. Brown in the wake of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 and the passage of the USA PATRIOT Act, Friedman said. The USA PATRIOT Act "raised some important issues" that the committee had to consider, he said.

"Restrictions on access to select biological agents, the application

Research, Page 16

Cambridge Reaffirms Sanctuary City Status

By Sandra M. Chung
CHAIRMAN

The Cambridge City Council passed a resolution (5-4) reaffirming the city's status as a "sanctuary city," in direct response to the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act (USA PATRIOT Act). Four MIT students testified before the Council in favor of the resolution: Julia K. Steinberger G, Stephanie W. Wang '04, Aimee L. Smith G, and Mehdi Yahyanejad G.

Cambridge originally declared itself a sanctuary city in 1985, in response to Federal Bureau of Intelligence (FBI) treatment of illegal Guatemalan, Nicaraguan, and Salvadoran immigrants during the Reagan administration. The new resolution, drafted by the local Human Rights Commission and the Peace and Women's Commissions, reaffirms the 1985 resolution in prohibiting city employees from participating in the investigation, arrest,

Sanctuary, Page 16



Boston's Fourth of July fireworks light up the sky, as seen from the roof of the Green Building. For more photos of Boston's Independence Day, see center spread.

Young Researchers Explore Science

By Nathan Collins
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Aleksander Sadowski came from Wloclawek, Poland, to write code that helps analyze the Mars polar ice caps for Professor Maria Zuber's group in Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences. "I enjoy doing it," said Sadowski, who wants to be a scientist.

Sadowski is a high school student, and along with 75 or so others he is a participant in the Research Science Institute (RSI), a program jointly sponsored by MIT and the Center for Excellence in Education.

RSI was founded in Washington, D.C. eighteen years ago by Admiral H.G. Rickover, who "wanted to improve education in the United States," RSI Director John Dell said. Now at MIT, RSI's 75 high school students perform research tasks in science and mathematics.

"Students work on math and science projects and write a paper" about their research, Dell said. The RSI schedule also includes lectures from MIT professors, including Nobel Prize winner Professor Phillip Sharpe.

Students research varied topics
RSI students arrived on campus

Sunday, June 23 and began projects with their mentors the following Friday. Assistant Director Matthew S. Cain '02 described the research projects as "like a limited UROP."

Emma Schmidgall, a high school senior from Minneapolis, Minn., works with Professor of Physics Eric Hudson. "I study the lattice structure of high-temperature superconductors," she said. "I wanted to do research and here I am doing research."

While many work on campus, the Cambridge area is filled with research opportunities, and RSI students take advantage of these as well. Cain said that students are working at MIT, Harvard, Boston University, and Massachusetts General Hospital, among others.

Caitlin Mueller of New Jersey works on learning and memory in planaria, or flatworms, at the Forsyth Institute. "It's annoying that I have to commute a half hour each way," but said she enjoys the opportunity and being at MIT. "Now that I'm here I really like it."

Admission to RSI competitive

RSI is "well-supported by the MIT administration," Dell said. Part of that support is covering room and board costs, which means

that students only pay travel expenses. The tradeoff is the competition to get in — over 900 students from the United States apply for 50 positions. The successful applicants are joined by about 25 international students each year. "I think they're good people ... We try to recruit the best and the brightest," Dell said.

Most RSI students have done some past research or done well in math competitions; some students are already published in their fields, Dell said. "Definitely the people coming here have taken advantage of educational opportunities," and most of them have well-educated parents. Dell has had difficulty recruiting minority students, "though I'm sure they're out there," he said. He is proud of a nearly half-and-half gender balance, a significant change from the male-dominated early years of the program.

Dell's goals are to "initiate [students] into the world of research" and to introduce them into the scientific community, as well as to build an RSI community. In addition to research activities, RSI students go on a number of off-campus trips, including a trip to the White Mountains.

RSI, Page 7



Peter R. Russo G leaps to catch a frisbee during a lunchtime game of Ultimate near Building 66.

OPINION

Kris Schnee discusses recent court decisions relating to the Establishment Clause.

Page 5



Comics

Page 10

THE ARTS

Minority Report — a sexy, sleek Cruise/Spielberg collaboration.

Page 14

World & Nation 2
Opinion 4
Events Calendar 13
Arts 14

WORLD & NATION

Israeli Police Storm Palestinian University in Jerusalem

THE WASHINGTON POST

Armed Israeli police, with the help of a locksmith and a moving van, stormed into the administrative offices of the pre-eminent Palestinian university in Jerusalem Tuesday, closing the building and accusing officials there of working for Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority.

Police sealed the offices of the university president, Sari Nusseibeh, the senior Palestinian representative in Jerusalem and internationally one of the most recognized voices of moderation among Palestinians, witnesses said.

"It was really scary," said Dimitri Dilianni, director of the university president's office. "You're sitting in your office doing paperwork and someone with an M-16 asks you to drop everything and show your ID."

Israeli Public Security Minister Uzi Landau, who ordered the shutdown, told Israel Radio that the university represents the "long arm of the Palestinian Authority, operating against the law."

The closure of administrative offices of the 6,000-student Al-Quds university was the latest in a series of Israeli shutdowns of Palestinian institutions and organizations operating in the mainly Palestinian-inhabited eastern part of Jerusalem, which was captured from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war and subsequently annexed into Israel.

Carter Effort in Venezuela Fails

THE WASHINGTON POST

Seeking against odds to defuse a swelling crisis, former president Jimmy Carter failed Tuesday to bring President Hugo Chavez and a hardening opposition together for talks aimed at resolving a standoff threatening to engulf Venezuela in fresh violence.

Carter's visit was viewed by the Bush administration as one of the best hopes for lowering tensions, which have failed to recede since Chavez was briefly removed from office after street clashes last April. But opposition leaders, suspicious of Carter's intentions from the start, refused his invitation to meet with Chavez in a bid to reduce tensions and open up the government to a broader range of opinion.

"There is a mix of opinions within the opposition," Carter said during an afternoon news conference in the capital, Caracas. "The fact that the opposition declined my invitation to meet with the president directly is dispiriting."

Carter is scheduled to leave Wednesday, the day before a scheduled anti-Chavez protest that has alarmed the government for its similarities to the march on April 11 that ended in Chavez's brief ouster.

Some Leading Democrats May Pass On Public Funding in 2004

THE WASHINGTON POST

Leading Democratic presidential hopefuls are contemplating a significant break with party tradition: Financing bids for the Democratic nomination with private donations rather than public funds.

George W. Bush pioneered the idea two years ago when he won the Republican nomination, and several Democrats wonder if they can follow suit in 2004. They hesitate, however, because Democrats historically have found far fewer donors willing to give \$1,000 or \$2,000 each. That will become a crucial funding level once the nation's new campaign finance law takes effect in four months.

Bush's potential Democratic challengers soon will face a difficult choice. They can accept roughly \$15 million in public funding, but they would have to abide by spending limits which might leave them strapped for cash while Bush spends freely in the summer of 2004. Or they can reject the money in hopes of recruiting thousands of new, generous donors who can keep them competitive with Bush throughout the campaign.

Senate Permits Nuclear Waste Storage Within Yucca Mountain

By Eric Pianin and Helen Dewar
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Senate Tuesday approved a Bush administration plan to store much of the nation's nuclear waste beneath Nevada's Yucca Mountain, giving final legislative approval to a project that has been debated for nearly a quarter century.

Despite strong objections from Nevada officials, gambling industry leaders and many environmentalists, the Senate voted 60 to 39 to affirm President Bush's finding that the \$58 billion project is "scientifically sound and suitable" and would enhance protection against terrorist attacks by consolidating the radioactive waste underground.

Fifteen Democrats joined 45 Republicans in approving the project, underscoring widespread concern over management of growing nuclear waste piles at power plants in 39 states.

Congress in the late 1980s authorized the Energy Department to consider Yucca Mountain as the sole site to collect and bury nuclear waste, which remains radioactive for thousands of years. It gave Nevada veto rights, however. Tuesday, the Senate joined the House in

overriding Nevada Gov. Kenny Guinn's objection to Bush's Feb. 15 decision endorsing the plan to bury as much as 70,000 metric tons of radioactive waste in desert tunnels 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

The vote was a victory for Bush and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham, who said the project was critical to their efforts to expand domestic energy production. It dealt a blow to Majority Whip Harry Reid (D-Nev.), and Sen. John Ensign, (R-Nev.), who led the effort to sidetrack the project.

The Senate "cast a very vital and important vote in favor of America's national security, in favor of America's energy security and in favor of this country's environmental security," Abraham said.

The vote capped an intense lobbying effort by the nuclear energy industry and U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which spent about \$72 million since 1994 lobbying for the project. Senate supporters said the vote will help assure the future of the U.S. nuclear power industry by keeping it from "choking on its own waste," as Sen. Frank Murkowski, (R-Alaska), put it.

Reid, Ensign and other opponents called the administration plan

"the big lie," a project riddled with technical and transportation problems that will not solve the waste storage problem because spent fuel will continue to pile up at nuclear power plants around the country even with a centralized repository.

"We are being forced to decide this issue prematurely, without sufficient scientific information, because this administration is doing the bidding of special interests that simply want to make the deadly waste they have generated someone else's problem," said Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.).

While the legislative issue appears settled, the Energy Department still must obtain a license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to build and operate the repository—a process that could take four or five years—and overcome a series of lawsuits brought by Nevada state officials.

By relying on a combination of geological barriers and hardened steel-alloy storage casks, the administration contends the government could safely bury the radioactive refuse for at least 10,000 years without it leaching into underground water or escaping into the environment in harmful doses.

President Urges Harsher Penalties For Accounting Fraud Criminals

By Mike Allen
THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK

President Bush threatened Tuesday to imprison executives who falsify financial statements, appealing to capitalists' self-interest as well as their consciences as he tries to curtail accounting fraud.

With bookkeeping scandals roiling markets and collapsing major companies, Bush said during a visit to Wall Street that he wants to enforce "a new ethic of responsibility" in boardrooms by giving more money and power to regulators and by doubling the maximum prison term for some types of fraud, from five years to 10.

"My administration will do everything in our power to end the

days of cooking the books, shading the truth and breaking our laws," Bush told an audience of 600 business, academic and religious leaders at a former customs house next to the New York Stock Exchange. "In the long run, there's no capitalism without conscience. There is no wealth without character."

The accounting crisis hit when the economic recovery already was looking sickly, handing Bush a new political challenge because he and his aides have longtime corporate connections and are champions of deregulation. He delivered the speech amid questions about his own conduct when he was an oil company director before running for Texas governor, and at a time when Senate Democrats are well

on their way to passing more stringent measures.

"Self-regulation is important, but it's not enough," Bush said. "Government can do more to promote transparency and ensure that risks are honest."

His proposals, which Democrats condemned as much weaker than measures they have long had in the works, beefed up a 10-point plan Bush issued in March when he was under fire for his political connections to the bankrupt Enron Corp.

The president signed an executive order creating a Corporate Fraud Work Force, which he called "a financial crimes SWAT team, overseeing the investigation of corporate abusers and bringing them to account."

WEATHER

Hazy Days of Summer

By Michael J. Ring
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

While last night's showers have brought us respite from the sticky heat, another meteorological nemesis may return over the next few days—haze from the Canadian forest fires.

Since being sparked by lightning on July 2, the fires in northern Quebec have burned over 250,000 acres. Soot particles have coated cars in Montreal, while the fires' smoke plume reached as far south as North Carolina this weekend. The smoke has affected the Maritime Provinces over the past few days.

Why did the smoke come in our direction over the weekend? On Friday and Saturday a low pressure system slid off the Maine coast. In the wake of the low, winds aloft shifted from southerly to northerly and brought the haze our way.

On Monday and Tuesday, winds from the south blocked the smoke from traveling in our direction (but brought us the steamy weather instead). However, with the passage of a cold front last night, winds are again blowing from the north, potentially bringing the smoke back our way. However, with better low-level circulation than the relative stagnation seen this weekend, whatever haze we receive should be more diffuse than Sunday's smoke.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny and much more comfortable. High near 80°F (27°C).

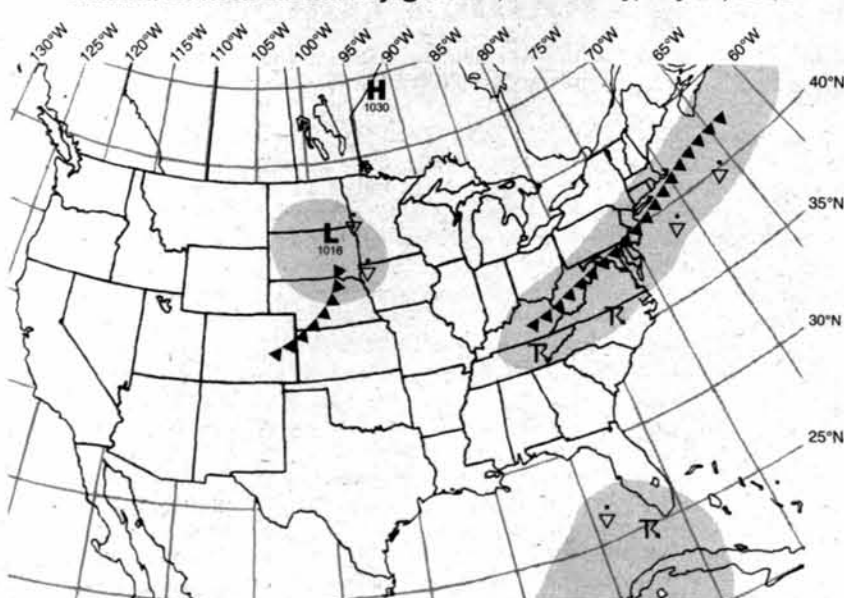
Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low near 56°F (13°C).

Thursday: Partly cloudy, with the potential of some haze from the Quebec fires. High near 78°F (26°C). Low near 58°F (14°C).

Friday: Sunny and slightly warmer. High near 83°F (28°C) and low near 60°F (16°C).

Weekend: Partly cloudy both days, with temperatures similar to Friday's.

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Wednesday, July 10, 2002



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	— — — Trough	Snow *	Fog
L Low Pressure	— — — Warm Front	Showers ∇	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	— — — Cold Front	Light *	Haze
	— — — Stationary Front	Moderate **	
		Heavy ***	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

Menopause Study Terminated As Health Risks Come to Light

By Ridgely Ochs
NEWSDAY

WASHINGTON

Healthy menopausal women who take a combination of estrogen and progestin appear to increase their risk of breast cancer, heart attacks, strokes and blood clots, prompting government-funded researchers to halt a study of almost 17,000 women three years early. They pronounced that the risks of such combination hormone therapy outweigh the benefits.

The results, the first major clinical trial to look at healthy postmenopausal women, are sure to have an impact on the 6 million women who take combination hormone therapy and on the millions more who are approaching menopause. Another 8 million women who have had a hysterectomy take estrogen alone; a section of the trial examining its effect on women's health is continuing.

Tuesday's announcement is seen as a landmark.

"My prediction is that this will

indeed change (medical) practice," said Dr. Jacques Rossouw, acting director of the Women's Health Initiative, in a news conference Tuesday. If women "do decide to take the therapy, they should do so for a short time" to relieve menopausal symptoms, not to prevent chronic disease such as osteoporosis or heart disease. However, he conceded, "there's no really safe period."

Tuesday's announcement concerned one branch of an ongoing federally funded trial called the Women's Health Initiative, which involves more than 160,000 postmenopausal women at 40 clinical sites across the country. The estrogen-progestin section of the study has followed 16,608 women, ages 50 to 79, who were given either the combination hormone therapy or a placebo.

The trial was to continue for 8.5 years, until 2005. But the study's independent data monitoring safety board decided to halt it after only 5.2 years when interim results

showed that the rates of heart disease, stroke, blood clots and breast cancer outweighed any benefits.

Women in the study have been informed they should stop their pills, researchers said.

A parallel trial examining estrogen alone in women who have had a hysterectomy is continuing because "the balance of risk and benefits is still uncertain," according to a statement from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health and the lead agency for the study.

Specifically, the estrogen-progestin study, released a week early by the Journal of the American Medical Association, found the following:

A 22 percent increase in total cardiovascular disease, with a 29 percent increase in heart attacks and a 41 percent increase in strokes. For heart attacks, the increased risk began in the first year and went up in the second. It persisted throughout the study.

Protesters Drown Out Thompson At International AIDS Conference

By David Brown
THE WASHINGTON POST

BARCELONA, SPAIN

Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson's address at the 14th International AIDS Conference was drowned out Tuesday by activists who were angry that the Bush administration had not pledged more money to fight the global pandemic.

The protesters began blowing whistles and shouting "Shame! Shame!" and "No more lies!" as Thompson came to the podium. They continued until he finished his address, making his speech virtually unintelligible to the audience. There was no violence or attempt to stop the demonstration, and there were no arrests.

For part of the half-hour event, about 30 people stood on the stage holding signs accusing Thompson and President Bush of "murder and neglect" of people with AIDS, and demanding that the United States contribute more to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. A dozen plainclothes security guards and Secret Service agents stood silent and motionless between Thompson and the protesters.

Later, the protesters retreated to the aisles but continued to chant.

The demonstration ended soon after Thompson finished his speech, took a drink of water, removed his glasses and walked backstage between parted curtains.

One of the two co-chairmen of the conference, Jose Gatell, an infectious diseases physician from a medical school in Barcelona, sat quietly in the front row of the auditorium during the protest, talking once with the head of security.

"Well, it happens," Gatell said, declining to comment further.

Neither of the speakers who followed Thompson — Richard Feachem, who will become the first executive director of the Global Fund next week, or Gro Harlem Brundtland, the leader of the World Health Organization — made any reference to the protest in their addresses. There was no public criticism of the protesters, who later held a news conference in the conference's Media Center.

Speaking to reporters afterward, Thompson said he "knew it was going to be rough, but I came here because I wanted to show that the Bush administration is committed to the fight. ... We have a strong message we're going to continue to deliver despite the jeers, the shouts, the insults."

Protests by AIDS activists are a regular part of international AIDS conferences. Scientists and public officials were the original targets, but in the past two conferences (in Durban, South Africa, two years ago and in Geneva four years ago) pharmaceutical companies were the more common ones. Protests there included spray painting and vandalism directed against the elaborate corporate displays (many larger than houses) in the commercial venue of the conference.

Thompson noted that he was the first U.S. secretary of health and human services to attend an international AIDS conference since Louis Sullivan — who held the post during the administration of President George H.W. Bush — was shouted down at one a decade ago. "No other secretary has had the courage to come," he said.

At the news conference, Asia Russell of ACT-UP Philadelphia was asked why the thousand or more people in the hall weren't allowed to hear Thompson speak.

"It's unacceptable to allow him to continue to use his power and face-time here to tell lies ... and that's why we did not allow him to speak, as people of conscience fighting this epidemic."

Assassinated Afghan Leader Mourned While Some Doubt Promise of Justice

By Alissa J. Rubin
LOS ANGELES TIMES

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

The Afghan flag flew at half-staff throughout the country and radio programs were banned from playing music during a national day of mourning Tuesday for slain Vice President Haji Abdul Qadir, as many Afghans expressed doubts that his killers will be caught.

In particular, many of Qadir's fellow ethnic Pashtuns said they thought the case will be treated much as was that of Air Transportation and Tourism Minister Abdul Rahman, who was slain Feb. 14. Then, the government pledged to bring the killers to justice and even named suspects, but none was arrested.

"They will not find the murderers of Haji Qadir," said Shamal Hoda, 25, a medical student who attended the special prayers held Tuesday for Qadir at a mosque here in central Kabul. "It will be the same as it was with Minister

Abdul Rahman. In that case the murderers are known but they are not arrested.

"Those who killed Haji Qadir are supported by great powers," Hoda said. "He was killed in the middle of Kabul."

Transitional President Hamid Karzai, along with hundreds of others, attended the prayers and said he had lost "my brother and my right hand." He promised Qadir's family and friends that the killers would be brought to justice.

Qadir was slain Saturday by a pair of gunmen as he drove away from his office in the Afghan capital.

A close examination of the many people who might have killed him reads like a litany of Afghanistan's problems and the difficulties facing the new government as it attempts to install the rule of law.

Suspects include ethnic rivals; drug dealers who lost money as a result of Qadir's policies; outside provocateurs, such as former Taliban members or warlord Gulbuddin

Hekmatyar; and members of the ethnic Tajik-dominated Northern Alliance, who helped oust the Taliban from Kabul last year and preferred in positions of authority other figures from Qadir's home turf in eastern Afghanistan.

The Afghan police authorities, which are dominated by Tajiks, say they are pursuing the case, but it is hard to get any specifics about what they are doing. Police quickly arrested 10 security guards posted at the Ministry of Public Works, which was near the site of the assassination, but few people think they are the culprits. Two other men were arrested later and little is known about them.

Police Chief Gen. Abdul Basir, a former Northern Alliance commander, said his investigation is focusing on Hekmatyar and on the family of Commander Shomali, a local warlord in eastern Afghanistan. Basir said he is leaning toward the theory that the former is responsible.

Florida Court Halts Execution As Death Penalty Is Reviewed

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Linroy Bottoson, a convicted murderer, had eaten what might have been his final meal of seafood, fried chicken, apple pie and butter-pecan ice cream. But six hours before the 63-year-old was supposed to die by lethal injection, Florida's Supreme Court halted his execution.

The justices wanted to reconsider whether the state's death penalty is constitutional, in light of a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Their action Monday threw capital cases across Florida into uncertainty and raised the possibility that all 371 inmates on the state's death row could have their sentences overturned. It also could have national repercussions.

"It's going to produce a lot of litigation and the need for a lot of hearings and legal work to get to the point where it's all clarified," predicted Nancy Daniels, a public defender in Tallahassee.

The surprise 6-1 decision by Florida's highest court to temporarily stay the executions of Bottoson and 47-year-old Amos Lee King Jr. — another killer who was scheduled to die Wednesday — was motivated by the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in an Arizona case.

In *Ring v. Arizona*, the high court said that only a jury, and not a judge alone, can impose a death sentence. The justices' decision threw out the death penalty laws in Arizona and four other states — Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Nebraska. Legal scholars said it still was uncertain how the ruling applies to Florida, Alabama, Delaware and Indiana — where juries make recommendations on whether a criminal should live or die, but the judge makes the final decision.

Small Biotech Firm Has Big Plans For Production of Antibodies

LOS ANGELES TIMES

A small California biotech company said Tuesday it has exclusive rights to a new patent on a technique for producing therapeutic antibodies from corn and other farm crops. Epicyte Pharmaceuticals of San Diego claimed the patent gives it a leadership position in an emerging industry, potentially worth millions, with competitors including such agricultural giants as Monsanto Co.

The patent was granted to Scripps Research Institute, where the technology was developed by Epicyte's founders in 1989. Epicyte said the patent applies to all plants and all antibodies — whether human or animal.

Antibodies are proteins naturally made by white blood cells that defend the body against disease. They can target specific invaders without disturbing other cells.

Drug makers produce antibodies for cancer and other diseases using conventional genetic engineering techniques. Of the 11 antibody-based drugs on the market, none are made in plants.

Most therapeutic antibodies are manufactured in hamster ovary cells, an intricate process that requires sterile factories with fermentation tanks and sophisticated purification equipment.

But 90 antibody-based drugs are in various stages of development at biotechnology companies. That has ignited a search for cost-effective ways to produce large quantities of antibodies, valued because they can target disease while causing few side effects.

Giuliani's Divorce May Go to Court

NEWSDAY

If they fail to smooth out their considerable differences in private negotiation by Wednesday morning, former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and his estranged wife, Donna Hanover, could go to trial immediately to fight out the terms of their acrimonious divorce.

Though they have had lengthy negotiations behind closed doors during the past week, it was unclear late Tuesday whether the sparring spouses would be able to come to a settlement. Their feud has been complicated by Giuliani's windfall of speaking and writing fees since leaving office, having steadied the city in arguably its darkest hour — on and after Sept. 11.

Court records show Giuliani expects to take in \$8 million for speeches alone this year, a far cry from his \$195,000 annual salary as mayor.

Giuliani, 57, filed for divorce in October 2000, charging Hanover with "cruel and inhuman" treatment during their 16-year marriage.

Hanover, 52, rejected that claim, but filed her own divorce action last month on grounds of cruelty stemming from what her lawyer called "Rudy's open and notorious adultery." The still-married Giuliani paraded his new companion, Judith Nathan, 47, at public events while he was mayor and a candidate for U.S. Senate.

Gateway to Offer Classes On Downloading Music Legally

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Rip, mix, learn?

Computer retailer Gateway Inc. plans to provide free classes to consumers on the dos and don'ts of online music, showing how to download music and burn CDs without violating copyrights.

The three-hour classes — to be held at all 274 Gateway Country retail stores — may help deflect criticism from record-label executives, who argue that companies like Gateway encourage consumers to pirate music and movies online to boost sales of their computers, CD recorders and related gear.

Some music and movie industry leaders back a bill in the Senate to mandate anti-piracy technology in computers and other digital devices, a proposal Gateway opposes. Other groups want lawmakers to slap a special tax on the sale of computers, Internet connections and blank CDs to compensate copyright holders for piracy.

Other computer firms, including Apple Computer, have infuriated the entertainment industry over the last several years, as hardware makers tout the power of using their equipment to swap music and movies.

Gateway spokesman Brad Williams said the way to fight piracy is by offering consumers a compelling legitimate alternative. Although the music industry has "some very legitimate grievances" about piracy, he said, "we haven't seen much from the major labels in terms of educating consumers."

OPINION



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Liberty, or the USA Patriot Act?

Stephanie W. Wang

You may have heard of the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act (USA PATRIOT Act) of 2001, but the Cambridge City Council passed a far more courageous resolution on June 17, reaffirming Cambridge as a "sanctuary city" that protects civil rights and liberties. While the former can only profess patriotism with the contrived acronym as a title, the latter upholds what defines the essence of America: the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

The USA PATRIOT Act expands the government's ability to conduct searches without warrants by allowing for delayed notification under broadly defined conditions. Just in case the 356 representatives and 98 senators who voted for the act have forgotten, the Fourth Amendment clearly states that "the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated..."

The USA PATRIOT Act gives the Attorney General the power to hold a non-citizen in detention indefinitely if he has "reasonable grounds to believe that the alien" is engaged in any "activity that endangers the national security of the United States" without any criminal conviction. Here is a reminder for the drafters of this act and the 454 representatives in Congress "upholding the rights of their constituents" who must have forgotten. The Fifth Amendment states that no person should be "deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law," the Sixth Amendment guarantees that "in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial," and the Fourteenth Amendment reaffirms the right of people to due process of law. Since the, rulings by the Supreme Court have extended these rights unequivocally to non-citizens in America.

The USA PATRIOT Act gives an ambiguous definition to the crime of "domestic terrorism" that could be conveniently interpreted to encompass civil disobedience. Was Martin Luther King a "terrorist"? Only the defenders of an unjust status quo that is only favorable to them would find the movements for change terrifying. The Secretary of State is now empowered to designate groups as "terrorist groups" or engaged in "terrorist activities" with such vague parameters that groups from churches to politi-

cal parties to non-governmental organizations could all be susceptible to such a designation. The act now gives the law-enforcement and intelligence agencies much greater access to information transmitted through various modes of communication, including the Internet, without the burden of probable cause. Such powers of surveillance certainly threaten our cherished First Amendment that grants the freedom of expression. Even more frightening is that these and many other powers granted to separate branches of our government without proper checks and balances just reek of potential abuse.

What is my greatest fear regarding the USA PATRIOT Act? It is the latest pretext for legalized persecution and oppression with complete disregard for the very freedoms that have built America into the unique nation it is today. I have often heard stories about people sent to jail without any cause just because another person, out of fear of persecution, identified them as a counterrevolutionary. I have heard of people committing suicide before they could be wrongly accused and exiled to faraway places. I have heard of children and adults harassed and abused not because of what they done, but because of their supposed background. However, I always tell myself that it was another time and another place; after all, what could be more different than the United States of America at the start of the 21st century and the People's Republic of China during the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s? I laughed at and dismissed the paranoia of my parents' generation who lived through that time and reminded myself that I am lucky to have freedoms and choices.

Then I remember the internment camps during World War II. I learn about the communism witch hunts during the McCarthy era. I become aware of the racial profiling and hate crimes that have plagued and continue to plague America. I think of Patrick Dorismond, an unarmed, off-duty security guard, shot by an undercover New York detective. He was

the fourth unarmed African-American man shot by New York police in under a year. I remember Vincent Chin, who was beaten to death with a bat when two auto workers in Detroit angry at the Japanese auto industry's success mistook him for a Japanese person. Neither perpetrator received any jail time and only had to pay a fine of a few thousand dollars for the hateful homicide. I wonder really how far we have really come from the days of the Chinese Exclusion Act and other xenophobic legislation more than a century ago. I begin to understand the paranoia and fear as I have come to understand what the USA PATRIOT Act really means.

The USA PATRIOT Act destroys the vision of America I had longed for: the land of immigrants that embraces rather than rejects, celebrates opinions rather than suppresses voices, gives everyone the chance to build a life with liberty rather than fear, and does not exclude anyone from truly being part of and contributing to this diverse community. I now fear an America of unsubstantiated finger-pointing, criminal acts driven by uninformed hate, and an unstoppable wave of scapegoating that history will condemn far too late. At least one story of an individual detained indefinitely based on a minor violation and unsubstantiated suspicion of "terrorist activities" has already emerged.

Cambridge has taken one step towards rejecting the violations of civil liberties in the USA PATRIOT Act, but will all of you take the next step to stand up for the basic rights promised in the Constitution? Is it un-American to condemn a person or a group to guilt until proven innocent while stripping away rights from people "just in case"?



Two Constitutionally Correct Decisions

Kris Schnee

Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...

And there the trouble began. We've just seen two controversial new rulings in our nation's courts as judges attempt simultaneously to strengthen and weaken ties between the federal government and religion. Surprisingly, both rulings are constitutionally correct, interpreting the First Amendment to mean that government may not play favorites or take an official position on our many religions.

The liberal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a ruling on disestablishmentarianism, finding it unconstitutional to lead public schoolchildren in the Pledge of Allegiance. The pitfall isn't in the original Pledge, but in the words "under God" inserted by a Red-scared Congress in 1954 specifically to link patriotism with belief in a single perfect God. The present Congress immediately responded with a spineless resolution that, because past Presidents have invoked the Christian God with a generic label, establishing "under God" and pressuring children into worship doesn't count as establishing religion.

This ruling will fall even though it supports a straightforward reading of the Constitution, because it defies a long tradition of hypocrisy. Because most Americans are Christians, they encourage government to endorse Christianity as much as possible — at least invoking a single supreme God as the correct belief. Would Christians consider it fair and neutral for the Pledge to read "one nation under many gods," or is only monotheism acceptable? Unfortunately this bias can't be dug out completely — "God" is even in the Declaration of Independence — but technically it doesn't belong at all. It is simply not the government's business to take any position on the existence, nature or worship of any God, gods, spirits, etc., and to favor one term over another is to insult every

atheist, Hindu, Buddhist, Wiccan, and Zoroastrian out there. We can't eliminate all of our predecessors' mistakes in making the government endorse monotheism, but we can avoid repeating those mistakes. The Pledge is fixable: the pre-1954 version was neutral, fair, and legal, and it can be restored.

The Pledge is not the worst example of church-state alliance in this country. It would have made more sense to attack the use of specifically Christian equipment in state ceremonies; for instance, the posting of the Ten Commandments in schools and courthouses and the swearing of oaths on Christian Bibles. While one can defend the Pledge's "God" as a generic deity, these other symbols pay homage directly to Yahweh of the Divine Right of Kings. Our athletes endorse Nike sneakers by wearing them in public, and our government endorses Christianity above all other religions in the same way. Some states go so far as to ignore the First Amendment altogether, for instance in South Carolina's Constitution: "No person who denies the existence of a Supreme Being shall hold any office under this Constitution." (Article XVII, Section 6) Practices like our court oaths are blatantly unconstitutional, and will be "first against the wall when the revolution comes." But that revolution in legal maturity is just wishful thinking for now, since Christian voters won't feel threatened until they have to swear oaths on a copy of *Dianetics*.

School vouchers are a very different story, a religious program which is constitutionally safe and wisely so ruled by the Supreme Court. In this case what the government is doing — allowing parents to choose where to send their kids to school — is a religiously neutral action. Vouchers can be used at accredited schools with or without any religious affiliation, so that government takes no stance on who's right and looks only at whether each school can meet curriculum standards. In theory, vouchers may even promote religious diversity by increasing the size of the private education market, leading to the growth of schools serving groups that

don't now have them.

The schools getting voucher money will face serious temptation to abuse their position, though, and may decide after all that the program is more trouble than it's worth. The voucher program puts religious groups with a history of mutual hatred — Jewish, Christian and Muslim, Catholic and Protestant etc. — into direct financial competition. Economics will force religious groups to squabble for dollars, raising tension between them. By taking state money, religious schools will also leash themselves to greater state control of their curricula. This control means more than having to teach science in fundamentalist classrooms; it means taxpayers objecting to the social agendas of each school and possibly forcing them to water down their religious instruction to keep their funding. Not all religious schools will want to enter the crusade for dollars and accept the attached strings. Vouchers will bring increased competition to education and, while the program's drawbacks will be difficult to avoid, competition will mean more freedom for parents and better education for children.

At the same time we have a court ruling rejecting religious favoritism in the national Pledge, and another supporting government-funded religious education. These rulings go in opposite directions but are both constitutionally correct, protecting the neutrality of government from theological issues best left to individuals. Unfortunately the Pledge ruling will probably be struck down, preserving the wedge of bias toward monotheism in our laws, but the "under God" is a fairly minor problem and we will survive it. Vouchers will bring new ideas to our school system, possibly even good ideas, and improve educational freedom without hurting neutrality. In judging religion-related laws and rulings, we must try to stay neutral ourselves and not let an atmosphere of enforced patriotism — like that in the 1950s when "under God" surfaced — force any theological decisions on Americans. We can handle these issues; in the Constitution we trust.

Who's On First?

Philip Burrowes

This past month alone has seen several events which in and of themselves could be "stories of the year." From the religious to the secular, the corporate to the individual, it seems the media have been less captivated than schizophrenic. It's almost as if the world were engaging in its own sweeps week, and one show had to lose out to another. Like prime-time television, however, the prominence of any one event is as much a product of timing as it is content, and the truly interesting tales can get lost in the shuffle.

Hands down the event of the season was the football World Cup — unless, of course, you live in the United States and/or call it "soccer." Here, the footsie WorldCom had played with its accounting was capturing the imagination of the American public, bringing financial mishaps to the headlines in a way not seen since, well, Enron. As anyone who has seen *The Phantom Menace* knows, however, finance makes for a boring story. People want action, suspense, and romance, like *Pearl Harbor*. Okay, maybe not — but who honestly follows the WorldCom mess besides Michael Jordan (who so far has not been implicated)?

We like things to get biblical so we turn to fire and floods. How else do you explain the attention given to the recent antithetical "acts of God" in the southwest? Yes, it's a warning to the residents of the area that their very livelihood is in danger, but most viewers or readers will not be concerned for their own safety. Fortunately for Arizona, because it lies within the Ninth U.S. Circuit, it can probably have the damage overturned as an unconstitutional infusion of religion into residents' daily lives. Texas and Colorado are in separate circuits so we may see conflicting decisions, but given the Supreme Court's voucher decision, Divine Intervention would likely be upheld on appeal.

Satan's still reportedly set to file an amicus curiae for pinko atheists as practice for the remake of "The Devil and Daniel Webster." Religion's always been a touchy subject in this country, however, and if people liked being uncomfortable then *Fear Factor* would be all too easy. Yet somehow stories about missing people still have legs. One could argue that the whole Chandra Levy affair was only intriguing because of political connections, but what of the concern over Elizabeth Smart? Some argue because of the nature of Smart's abduction, it haunts people as a possibility they could not protect themselves from. Why all this arguing? Don't you have better things to worry about?

No Americans died in the explosion outside the consulate in Karachi, supporting the theory that the West is — and forever will be — invincible within the confines of Asia. Journalists are therefore free to put that much less effort into reporting on the latest invasions or other silliness, but there are diplomatic concerns outside the continent (Yao Ming or no).

At the latest G8 summit, the world's most ridiculously rich countries (and, get this, Russia) vowed to help the world's most ridiculously poor countries (and, get this, South Africa) under the so-called "African Action Plan." Some of the novel points of the plan include "Promoting Peace" and "Expanding Knowledge," a hard sell to the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

Comparisons to the Marshall Plan have been frequent, and ridiculous for any number of reasons. For one, the Marshall Plan was undertaken by one country in an attempt to put a smaller set of nations back on their feet. In comparison the Democratic Republic of Congo alone is around the size of all Western Europe and there are eight countries expected to coordinate their resources and make states of such size work when they never had before. Nor do the G8 have the same fervor in their task that the Truman Administration possessed, as President Bush hasn't exactly gone stumbling in support of the plan. In his mind, "As to Africa, all of us are doing as much as we possibly can" already.

At least he has an opinion, however ridiculous it may be. In fact, President Bush has let few of these events pass him by without gracing us with his in-depth analysis. WorldCom's misaccounting was "outrageous," he admitted to U.S. World Cup coach Bruce Arena the he didn't know "anything about soccer." Utilizing his management training, Bush reprimanded the Ninth Circuit Court's decision as "out of step," relished the Supreme Court's as "a great victory," and told firefighters in Arizona he was "here to say, on behalf of the American people, God bless you." You may say it's just part of his job, but how many of you can claim to be as on top of things as this bumbling fool? Blame the media, I suppose.

The Great Divide

Ken Nesmith

This year's Fourth of July, summer's trademark holiday, came and went calmly enough. The patriotism amassed over the last months found a supportive and appropriate outlet, and the terrorists were kind enough to let us celebrate without interruption. The fireworks were all of the planned variety, and revelers were apparently as mesmerized as ever by the flashes of light and loud noises, myself completely included. The massive crowds indicated that no one was afraid to walk the streets and join the celebration. Everyone — families, teens, old folks, the stylishly young — staked out their traditional spots and performed the customary rites of patriotic merriment, be they barbecues, picnics, bar crawls, or some other summery mainstay.

This nation's laws regarding the point in a citizen's life in which it becomes permissible to purchase alcohol mean that at the somewhat random age of 21 the nature of celebration shifts completely. Massive national parties such as the Fourth of July divide the party-going public neatly into two categories, the underage who wish they weren't and the old people who either wish they weren't or will wish they weren't after

a few more years and just a few more hours to sober up.

Both groups envy the green grass on the other side of the legal fence. For the underage, there is nothing worse than the feelings of disempowerment, irrelevance, immaturity, and exclusion that accompany the curtailment of freedom to partake in activities society and culture grant an unassailable aura of "in"-ness. Like the early teen barred from the R-rated movie who has watched the advertisements, read the reviews, and been told by all his friends how damned cool it is, the underage just know that what awaits on the other side of those velvet ropes and very large men is the place they want to be.

Perhaps they've even been there a few times, after a dramatic, adrenaline-filled maneuver into a party of age. The very act of getting in and slipping underneath the radar of the authorities brings a rush that suffices as an evening's entertainment. A good fake ID, a friend who knows this guy who knows the bouncer, or an establishment with occasionally lax age enforcement all provide passage across the mysterious boundary to the mystical region of dim lighting, loud music, and crowds whose import, derived purely from their numbers, would appear depressingly impotent and laughably silly stripped of the various numbings of the senses that

generally characterize nightlife.

Yet the powerful mystique of the forbidden and unknown is not easily disarmed. If there's one nearly universal human trait, it's the need to know and experience for ourselves; even the biblical first people, Adam and Eve, abandoned paradise and munched their forbidden apples, an action said to be a cultural codeword for "had a drink", simply for the sake of experience, despite divine admonition not to.

Adam and Eve, having gone from heavenly paradise to worldly strife, regretted their decision after a few hours of fun with apples. They wished more than anything to return to their innocent paradise. After birthday number 21 falls irretrievably into history along with every other passing day of ever shortening lives, it's only a matter of time before the newly christened non-minors (shouldn't they be called "majors"?) realize that they've passed the final point for some time at which they're granted new societal privilege, having been given in the last five years the right to drive, vote, and now drink. The next time the government grants them new privileges thanks to their age will find them collecting social security checks. I imagine it's not quite as exciting a transition as gaining the right to drink.

It doesn't take long until the majors

begin to envy the minors for their youth and would gladly trade their drinking privileges just to jump back a few years to more youthful days, before more of the life's magic rubbed off into cold realities. The circle of envy is complete, but for the minors, the object of their envy is obtainable with merely a bit of patience. The majors don't have it so easy: watching the nervous minors stammer at the doorway reciting their false birth date and address for skeptical bouncers and longing for the good old days of doing the same, the only salve for their envy is yet another drink to stunt thoughts of their lost youth.

At some point in grade school, I made New Year's resolution to believe in Santa Claus again. The attempt at self-deception didn't quite work out as well as I'd hoped, but it was worth a shot. Don't worry; I am by now quite comfortable with Santa Claus' failure to exist, and I'm sure I'll become quite comfortable with losing minor status as well. We minors, though, can make a purposeful effort to replace our envy and resentment with cherishment of our impermanent youth while we have it. Soon, instead of wishing time forward, we'll be wishing it back.

Also, if anyone can make a good fake ID, drop me an e-mail.

Don't Blindly Trust the DOE

Brice Smith

Time is running out. In May the House voted to override Nevada's veto of the Yucca Mountain high level nuclear waste repository. The Senate is expected to vote within the next few weeks. If they override the veto, then the Department of Energy will be free to apply to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a license which, if granted, will give the go ahead to eventually ship up to 77,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel through as many as 44 states to Yucca Mountain, where it will supposedly remain secure for the next 10,000 years. (You might ask yourself how the words "Danger. Keep Out!" will be written in the year 12,000 AD, but I digress). Much has been said about this issue, and untangling the arguments is no simple task given the enormous uncertainties inherent in all such long time-scale predictions.

As scientists we are trained to question every assumption within an analysis. Inherent in that examination must also be a questioning of who is conducting the research, what their track record is, and what potential conflicts of interest they might have. When dealing with a decision that could potentially destroy the lives of millions of people and impact the environment for hundreds of thousands of years, these questions become all the more important.

One does not have to look very hard to realize that the DOE has one of the worst environmental and safety records in the world. The Environmental Protection Agency even once barred its employees from visiting a uranium processing facility because of the high risk of exposure to radioactivity. The DOE acknowledges 155 instances of serious

contamination spread across all 16 of its weapons facilities. Many of these leaks have threatened the public water supply. The most heavily polluted site is at Hanford, Wash., but the most dangerous is Rocky Flats given that it is only 16 miles from Denver. The General Accounting Office found a pervasive attitude of laxness towards safety at this site (including faulty radiation monitors and fire alarms). During its operation, Rocky Flats suffered hundreds of small fires and two major fires started by the spontaneous ignition of plutonium. As a result, the DOE had to buy \$9 million worth of land that had been dangerously contaminated and the 40 acre reservoir feeding Broomfield, Colorado was blanketed by plutonium, requiring drinking water to be trucked in each week. In 1989 Rockwell, which ran the plant for the DOE, sued the government, claiming that the DOE knew the plant could not be operated in compliance with environmental laws, but insisted that Rockwell keep it running. After an investigation, the FBI charged that senior executives at the DOE knew of the dangers, but lied to conceal the violations. Eventually Rockwell shut down the plant and was hit with an \$18.5 million criminal fine, but they had received \$27 million in bonuses from the DOE during just their last three years of operation.

Compounding their ineptitude and carelessness, the DOE, and its predecessors, intentionally exposed tens of thousands of unsuspecting and uninformed Americans to radiation, including the release of radioactive iodine at Hanford in 1949 which contaminated the surrounding communities. To this day the true scale and consequences of these experiments are unknown. Finally, the DOE's traditional role as an advocate for the nuclear industry presents a significant conflict of

interest, which is compounded by the fact that they are facing a multi-billion dollar court ordered fine for not opening the repository in 1998 as planned. One of the major issues in determining the damages is the schedule under which the DOE will begin accepting the spent fuel, thus adding further pressure to find a quick solution no matter what the concerns.

If you are putting your faith in regulation to mitigate all this, then even a tertiary examination of the NRC will reveal that it is often little more than an industry spokesperson with a rubber stamp. Time and again the senior management at the NRC has overruled its own investigators and scuttled inquiries. For example, NRC managers interfered with a criminal investigation of industry officials who had knowingly lied about the readiness of the Watts Bar reactor, other managers cut short an investigation of an accidental chain reaction at the Fermi 2 reactor which was still applying for a license, and a panel in D.C. overrode the findings of investigators in California who questioned the safety of the troubled Diablo Canyon plant. This last incident, combined with many others, prompted a senior NRC engineer to resign in protest and a House subcommittee to find that the NRC had probably violated federal law during its deliberations. To make matters worse, the NRC is allowing plant owners to further increase risks by cutting back on inspections of critical safety equipment. As for Yucca itself, the NRC raised 293 serious questions about its suitability and despite having received responses to less than 50 of these, it ruled that enough information is available for a license application.

If you are putting your faith in regulation to mitigate all this, then even a tertiary exam-

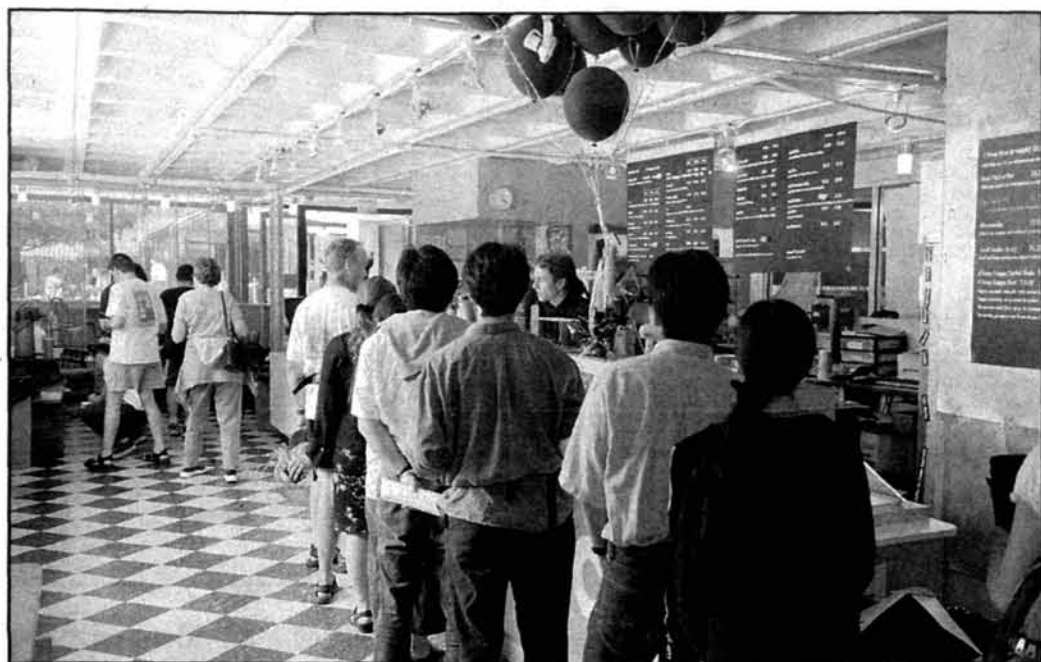
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Neither of these organizations has earned the blind faith that so many currently have in them. Given the enormous risks of pushing Yucca Mountain through and greatly expanding the waste stored around the country by revitalizing a failing industry, it is unbelievable that so many seem willing to overlook the disastrous and often deceitful past of these agencies. Trust must be earned, and to the detriment of us all, the DOE and the NRC have failed miserably in that task.

Top 5 Ways to Make the Front Page of The Tech:

5. Get involved with the UA
4. Get busted by the cops
3. Cause a major fire/explosion
2. Be the victim of a major fire/explosion
1. Write news! (You get free dinner, too.)

join@the-tech.mit.edu



SCOTT JOHNSTON—THE TECH

On mid-June Friday, MIT said goodbye to Toscanini's Ice Cream, which has been a fixture in the Student Center for several years. Top: By lunchtime, the line for free ice cream reaches out the door. Bottom: Employees demonstrate how free ice cream means bigger tips.

Program Includes Outings

RSI, from Page 1

Schmidgall said she is learning ballroom dancing and, from her fellow students, such talents as jazz violin.

By the time they leave on August 3rd, Schmidgall, Mueller, and their fellow students will have completed short research projects, written research papers, and presented their research in sessions held Aug. 1 and 2. Top papers will be selected and published in a compendium along with abstracts of all the RSI research.

Students said they were enjoying the RSI introduction to research. "You're discovering things," Schmidgall said. "Normally they don't give projects like these to high school students."

ENGINEER/STUDENT WANTED FOR INDEPENDENT PROJECT. FEE TO BE NEGOTIATED. CONTACT: GABRIEL RUIZ (617) 640-4189 OR GARY DORNFIELD (732) 238-6660.

Solution to Crossword

from page 13

A	S	P	S		T	R	A	W	L		S	L	I	T	
N	C	A	A		A	E	R	I	E		T	O	D	O	
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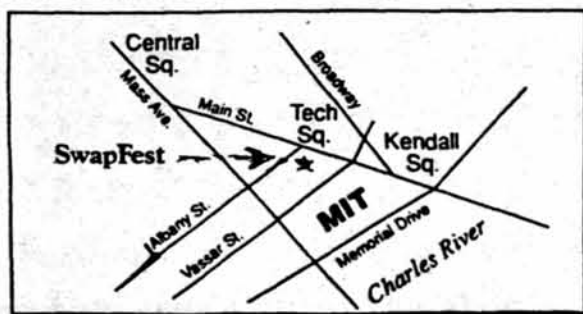
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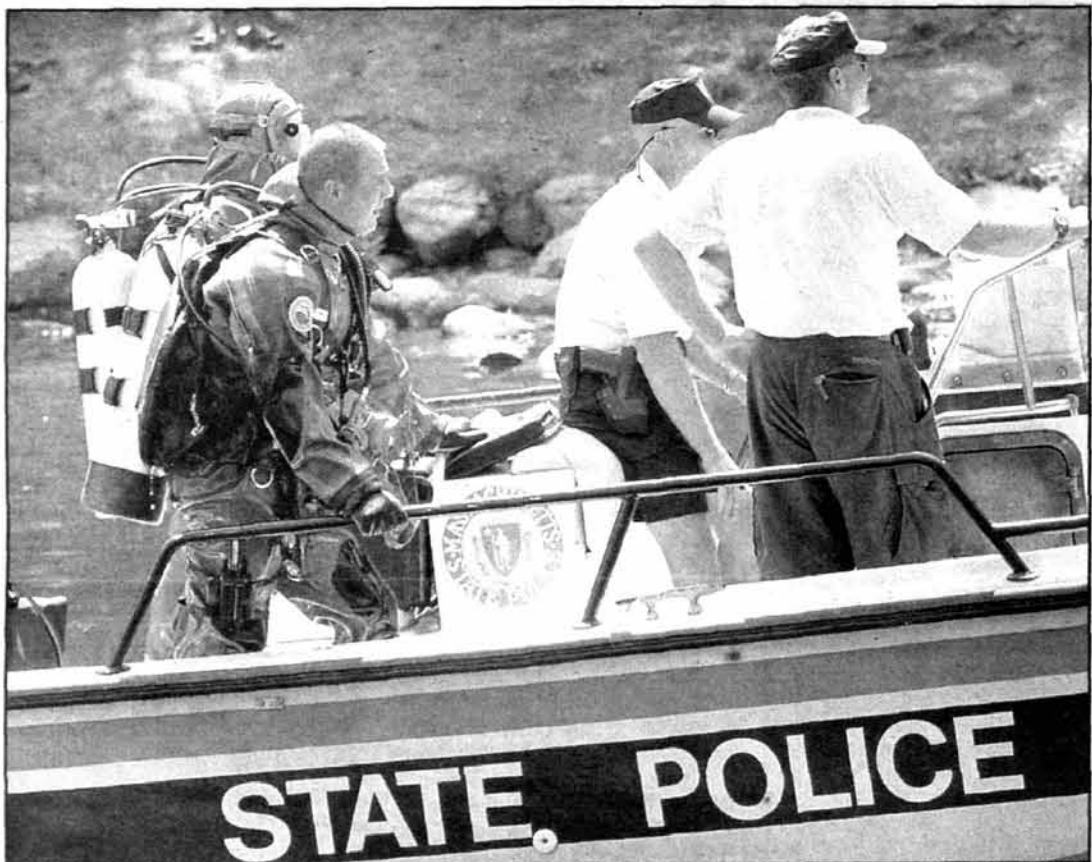
SELLERS \$ 20
per space includes 1 admission



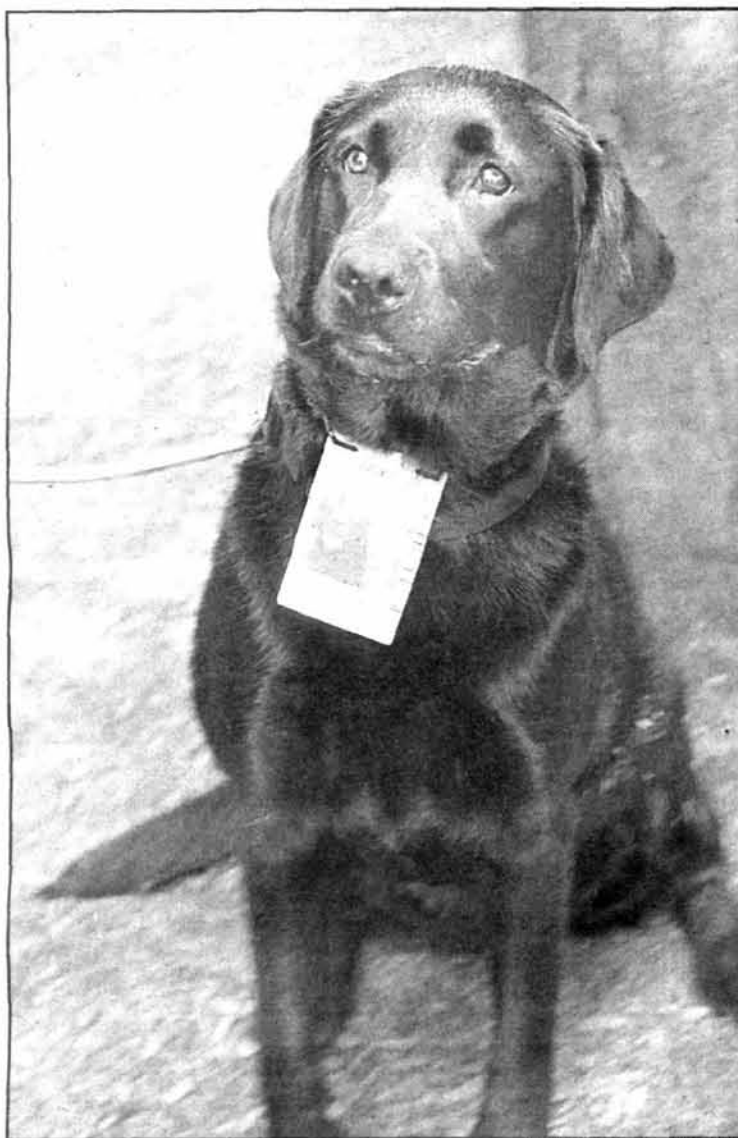
FREE!
Buyers Parking
VENDORS
from all of
New England

Come early for **BEST BARGAINS**

Sponsored by: W1MX, the MIT Electronics Research Society, W1XM/R



(Above) Massachusetts State Police divers search and patrol the Charles River near the Hatch Shell in preparation for Boston's Fourth of July festivities. In addition to concerns about attacks, the river patrols kept back swimmers attempting to get a good seats on the Esplanade and enforced special boating rules.



(Left) Jackie the Dog, also from the Massachusetts State Police, helped out by searching the area for bombs.



Boston celebrates the Fourth of July

(Above) Four F-15 fighter jets perform a flyover in formation on July 4.

flags and red, white, and blue glowsticks Manilow performs a patriotic tribute.

(Right) Barry Manilow sings his classic "Copa Cabana."

(Below left) Fireworks — an endless stream of fireworks accompanied by dramatic music and an interlude featuring excerpts from a speech by President George W. Bush — explode over the Charles River.

(Far right) MIT Police Sergeant Cheryl Vossmer (right) dances with a friend as Manilow sings.

(Below right) Spectators wave



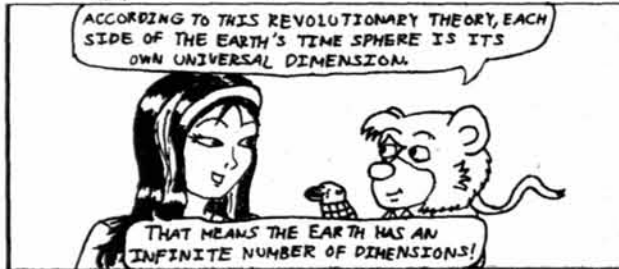
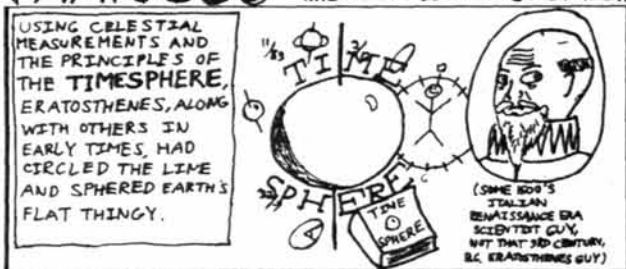
COMICS

FUN PAGES

Page
10

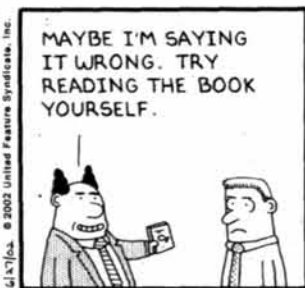
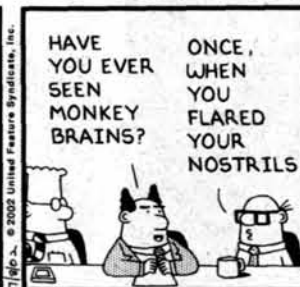
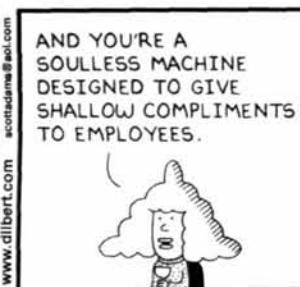
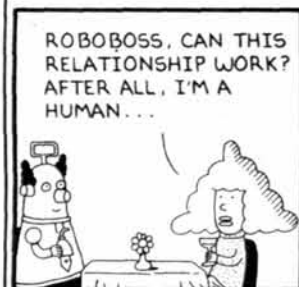
MANGOS

SPECIAL SUMMER PRESENTATION:
WHEN COMIC IDEAS... GO STALE!!



Dilbert®

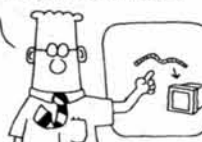
by Scott Adams




Dilbert®

by Scott Adams


MY TECHNOLOGY TEST WAS A HUGE FAILURE BECAUSE I HAD TO USE ROPE AS MY ELECTRONIC CABLE.




OUR PROCUREMENT MANAGER IS A MONKEY WHO SIGNED AN EXCLUSIVE CABLE CONTRACT WITH A ROPE VENDOR.




I'D RATHER NOT TAKE SIDES UNTIL I HEAR THE MONKEY'S VERSION.




I'M HAVING THESE COFFEE MEETINGS TO FIND OUT HOW I CAN IMPROVE MORALE.




MY ONLY PROBLEM WAS THAT I WASN'T DRINKING ENOUGH COFFEE WITH YOU. SO NOW I'M GOOD, THANKS.




PROMISE ME YOU'LL NEVER LEAVE THIS TABLE. I CAN'T GO BACK TO THE WAY THINGS WERE.



I CALL MY IDEA "COFFEE WITH THE BOSS." EACH EMPLOYEE WILL GET ONE HOUR OF QUALITY TIME WITH ME.




I'D RATHER STAPLE A SKUNK TO MY FOREHEAD AND GO TO A TRADE SHOW FOR BANJO MAKERS.

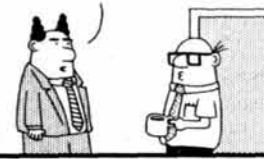


AND YET, IT'S STILL BETTER THAN WORKING. SO COUNT ME IN.


THAT'S THE SPIRIT!




WALLY, IT'S YOUR TURN TO BE IN CHARGE WHILE I'M ON VACATION.




BUT WHATEVER YOU DO, DO NOT SIT IN MY CHAIR. IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT.




OOH-BABY! YOU WANT SOME OF THIS. YES, YOU DO.



YOU'RE THE FIRST EMPLOYEE FOR MY "COFFEE WITH THE BOSS" PROGRAM.




FEEL FREE TO SAY WHATEVER IS ON YOUR MIND. DON'T HOLD BACK. GIVE IT TO ME STRAIGHT.




MY CHAIR HAS A SQUEAK.


YOU UNGRATEFUL WHINY WRETCH!!!



CAROL, I'M FILLING IN FOR THE POINTY-HAIRED BOSS, SO THAT MAKES YOU MY SECRETARY.




I AM AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, YOU STINKIN' BABOON!



I WILL MAKE YOU PAY DEARLY FOR YOUR ARROGANCE!

COULD YOU PUT A HEAD ON THIS?




FoxTrot

by Bill Amend


SOME NATURE HIKE THIS TURNED OUT TO BE.

WHO KNEW SUBURBIA WAS SO LIFELESS?




I WANTED TO COME FACE TO FACE WITH WILD ANIMALS! RATTLESNAKES! GRIZZLY BEARS!

IS SOMETHING ON MY ELBOW?




AAAA! IT'S A TICK! RUN!

NEVER MIND. IT'S JUST DIRT.

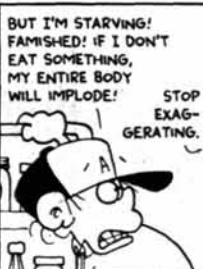


PETER, GET OUT OF THERE! DINNER'S IN A HALF-HOUR!




BUT I'M STARVING! FAMISHED! IF I DON'T EAT SOMETHING, MY ENTIRE BODY WILL IMplode!

STOP EXAGGERATING.




OK, OK, MY STOMACH WILL IMplode.


MUCH BETTER. HERE, HAVE A CARROT.




I AM SO HOT.




BURNING HOT.



BLAZING, FLAMING, ON-FIRE HOT.




SO SIT IN THE SHADE.




I'M TALKING ABOUT MY LOOKS.

PERMIT ME TO BE SOMEWHAT COLD...




WHERE'S JASON?


UPSTAIRS. HE SAID HE WANTED TO GIVE HIS IGUANA A BATH.




I THOUGHT PAIGE WAS IN THE BATHTUB.




AAAAA! MOTHERRR!



COMMING... WHY DO YOU THINK HE WANTED TO?




I WISH OUR NEWS-PAPER WOULD RUN "DOONESBURY" ON THE EDITORIAL PAGE INSTEAD OF WHY'S WITH THE COMICS.




OUR KIDS READ THE FUNNY PAGES.

SO?




IT ADDRESSES DIFFICULT TOPICS. SOMETIMES IT MAKES THEM ASK ME QUESTIONS I'M UNCOMFORTABLE ANSWERING.



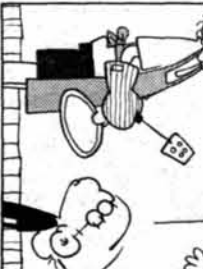
HOW CAN YOU NOT GET THIS PUNCHLINE?? YOU DO KNOW WHO MUSHARRAF IS, RIGHT??

OF COURSE I KNOW WHO SHE IS.

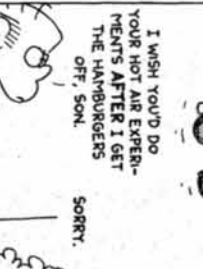


I WISH YOU'D DO YOUR HOT AIR EXPERIMENTS AFTER I GET THE HAMBURGERS OFF, SON.

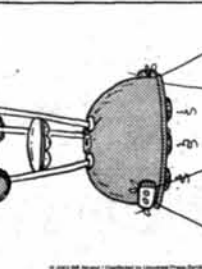
SORRY.



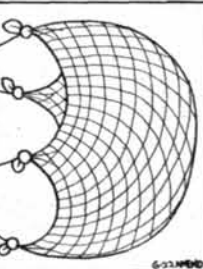
WELCOME, ANDYFOX2473!



YOU HAVE 25,000 NEW MESSAGES!




MESSAGE #1: RAISE JASON'S ALLOWANCE!
MESSAGE #2: RAISE JASON'S ALLOWANCE!
MESSAGE #3:...




WHAT ARE YOU MAKING?

EGGS.




FRIED OR SCRAMBLED?

I'LL LET YOU KNOW IN A SECOND.




FLIP.

OOPS.




SCRAMBLED.

IF THE FOOD NETWORK EVER WANTS A COMEDY SERIES...



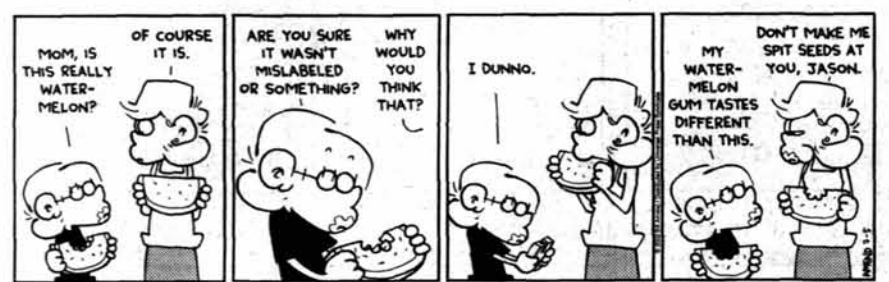
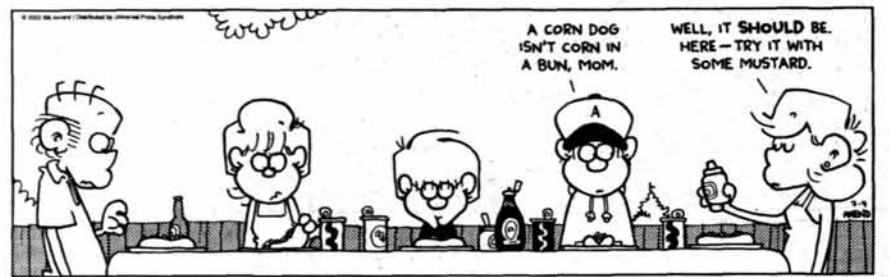
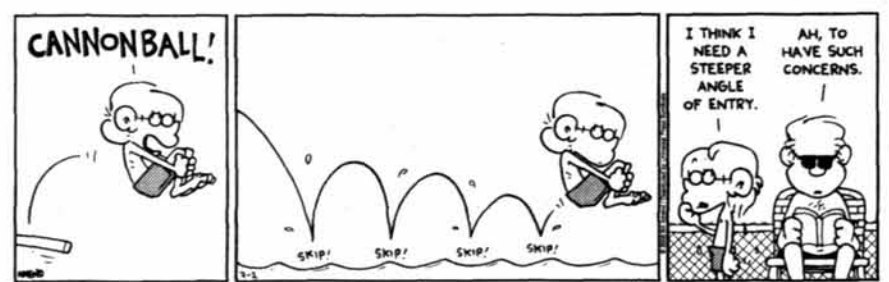
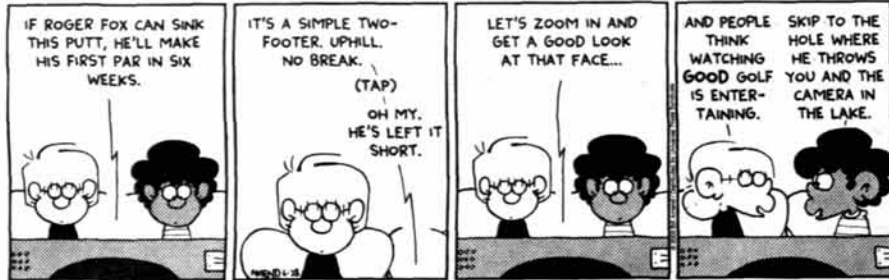
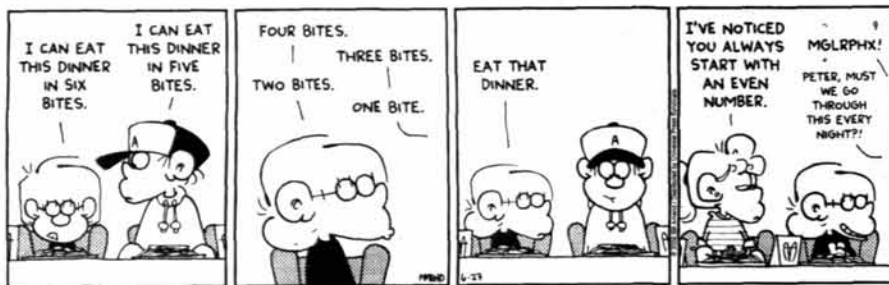
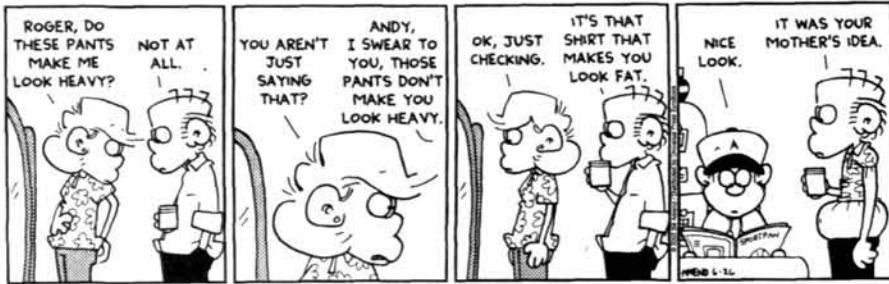
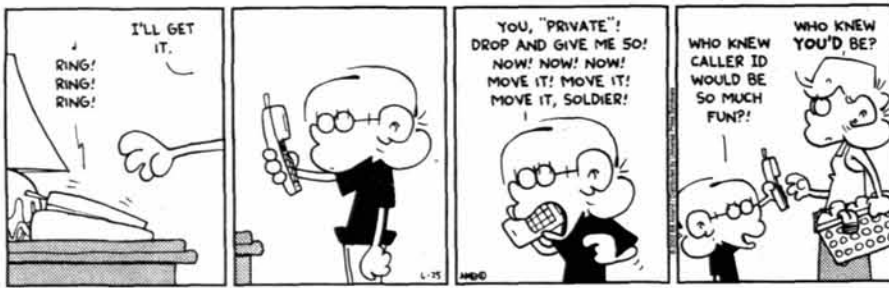
IF I EVER MEET THE GENIUS WHO THOUGHT UP SPAM-MAIL...

I HEAR YOU'RE DOWN TO A PENNY A DECADE.



FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



Events Calendar

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Wednesday, July 10

10:00 a.m. – Admissions Information Session (Followed by the Campus Tour). Following the Admissions Information Session is a Student Led Campus Tour which begins in the Transitions Lounge room which is located on the first floor of the Stratton Student Center, 84 Massachusetts Ave, which is the building located directly across from the 77 Massachusetts Ave main entrance building. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations.. Room: Meet in Transitions Lounge, Stratton Student Center, Bldg. W20, first floor. Sponsor: Information Center.

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour. Student led tours are approximately 90 minutes long and provide a general overview of the main campus. Please note that campus tours do not visit laboratories, living groups or buildings under construction. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Campus tours start at the conclusion of the Admissions Information Session which is given in the Transitions Lounge, first floor of the Stratton Student Center, 84 Massachusetts Ave, which is located across the street from the 77 Massachusetts Ave main entrance building. free. Room: Transitions Lounge room, first floor, Stratton Student Center (Bldg. W20). Sponsor: Information Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Laser Surgery or Glasses? An MIT staff optometrist discusses everything you wanted to know about laser refractive surgery for nearsightedness, including indications, the procedure, results, complications, recent improvements, and new lasers. free. Room: Bush Room (10-105). Sponsor: MIT Medical.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – PowerPoint Quick Start. PowerPoint makes it easy to jazz up your presentations. Get an introduction to what PowerPoint can do. Find out how to create slide shows. Learn how to use drawing tools, graphics, and create hand-outs.. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

2:00 p.m. – Admissions Information Session.

2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – spouses&partners@mit - Summer meeting. Call 617-253-1614 or email reck@med.mit.edu for meeting details. free. Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit.

6:00 p.m. – Gamelan Galak Tika Outdoor Concert. Program includes traditional music and dance, featuring a showcase of the intricate and compelling Balinese dance style with both solo and ensemble dance pieces. New works composed by GGT members, including the group's artistic director Prof. Evan Ziporyn, will also be performed.

Gamelan Galak Tika begins its 10th concert season with a presentation of the gamelan experience in its preferred environment: the outdoors. For centuries, the shimmering sound of the gamelan has carried through evenings of work and play in Bali, and now GGT is pleased to bring this authentic, dazzling atmosphere to the people of Boston.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Start-up Clinic.

Discover how to present a plan to potential investors at the MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge's Start-up Clinic. Two pre-selected companies present their business plans and receive feedback from a panel of experts and the audience over an informal dinner. The key learning points include how plans and presentations are evaluated; what investors and evaluators look for, and how to fine-tune plans and presentations. The event will be held at 6 PM the MIT Faculty Club, 50 Memorial Drive, 6th Floor, Cambridge, MA. Wheelchair Accessible. Registration fee is \$35 for Forum Members and \$45 for Non Members and includes dinner. Pre-Registration is Required. For more information or to register, visit: www.mitforumcambridge.org or call 617-253-8240.

\$35/Members \$45/Non Members. Room: MIT Faculty Club, 50 Memorial Drive, 6th Floor. Sponsor: MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge, Inc..

7:30 p.m. – Of the Glamorous Lives of Cool Stars. Dr. Huenemoerder conducts research using the Chandra X-ray Observatory gratings (shown to the left during assembly) to get the X-ray spectra of cool stars. He will describe what X-ray spectra are, and what they tell us about the unique features of our Sun and other stars.. free. Room: Marlar Lounge (37-252). Sponsor: LSC. MIT Center for Space Research.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – IFILM Film Seminar. Screening of an international movie accompanied by a discussion about it.. free. Sponsor: International Film Club.

Thursday, July 11

10:00 a.m. – Admissions Information Session.

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Eudora Quick Start. This session shows how to configure Eudora, create messages and address lists, send and receive attachments, and sort incoming email.. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. – Conversational English Class. Join us for a free conversational English class for international students and spouses at MIT. Most attendees are women able to speak freely who desire to increase their English skills. Class covers a variety of topics including American culture and holiday descriptions.. Free. Room: W11 Board Room. Sponsor: Baptist Campus Ministry.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Weight Watchers at Work meetings at MIT. New and returning members are always welcome at this weekly meeting on weight control. Friendly, relaxed lunch hour meetings. More info: tpriest@mit.edu. Room: Building 8-219. Sponsor: Information Center.

2:00 p.m. – Admissions Information Session.

2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour.

Friday, July 12

10:00 a.m. – Admissions Information Session.

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – BrioQuery Quick Start. Learn how to download, install, and set up BrioQuery on your desktop. Learn how to download and process a standard report. An overview of the features and capabilities of BrioQuery will be given.. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

2:00 p.m. – Admissions Information Session.

2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour.

Saturday, July 13

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – Patrol. Shoot your friends! Travel to strange, new classrooms; meet interesting, unusual people; and kill them. A team game of shoot-em-up; guns provided.. free. Room: Building 36, First Floor. Sponsor: Assassins' Guild, MIT.

Monday, July 15

10:00 a.m. – Admissions Information Session.

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour.

2:00 p.m. – Admissions Information Session.

2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour.

Tuesday, July 16

10:00 a.m. – Admissions Information Session.

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Dreamweaver Quick Start. Dreamweaver 4 is a powerful tool for creating and managing complex web sites. This session introduces users to the Dreamweaver interface and gives a brief overview of web publishing practices at MIT.. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

2:00 p.m. – Admissions Information Session.

2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Toastmasters@MIT Evening Meetings. 77 Mass. Avenue, Cambridge, Building 2, Room 2-131. free. Sponsor: Toastmasters.

Friday, July 17

10:00 a.m. – Admissions Information Session.

10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Artist Behind the Desk Concert. BJ Magoon and Driving Sideways. A dance inspiring mix of Blues, Swing and R&B with Dave Broderick, senior audio visual specialist and BJ Magoon, audio visual technician, MIT Audio Visual Services. free. Room: Stratton Student Center Pavilion. Sponsor: Working Group on Support Staff Issues.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – TSM (ADSM) Backup Software Quick Start. Learn how to download, install, and configure TSM (formerly ADSM), a program for backing up your files to a secure server over the network. Discuss your TSM questions with technical staff.. Room: N42 Demo. Sponsor: Information Systems.

2:00 p.m. – Admissions Information Session.

2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – IFILM Film Seminar.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 7

ACROSS

- 1 Venomous vipers
- 5 Fish by dragging a net
- 10 Narrow cut
- 14 March Madness letters
- 15 Eagle's nest
- 16 Hubbub
- 17 Make headway
- 18 Mrs. Gorbachev
- 19 Harrow rival
- 20 Tree frog
- 23 Examination subject
- 24 Fables writer
- 28 Fall flower
- 33 Impertinent
- 36 Hearts and diamonds
- 37 U.S. airline: abbr.
- 38 Actor Grant
- 39 Hand weapons?
- 40 Waste allowance
- 41 Lode load

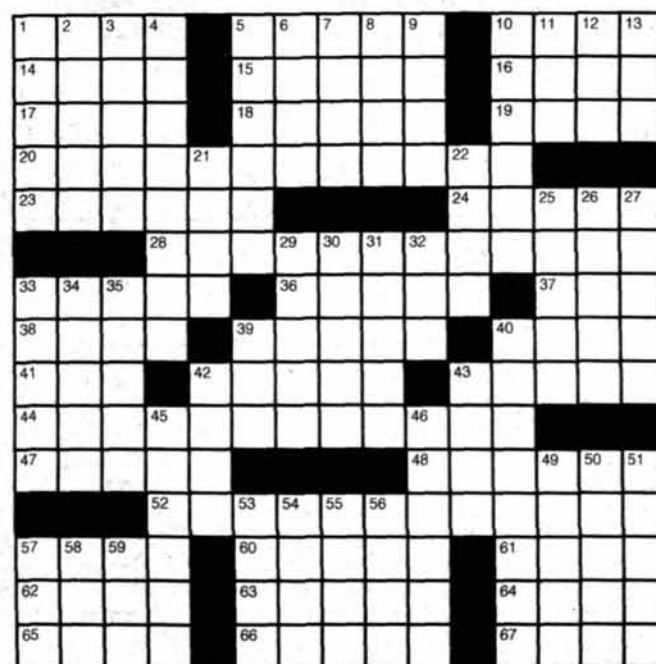
- 42 Pieces of pounds
- 43 Malt beverages
- 44 Former Broadway theater
- 47 Subsequent
- 48 Unaltered
- 52 Off-season basketball
- 57 Lat. list-ender
- 60 Acoustic
- 61 TLC part
- 62 Han Solo's princess
- 63 Form a bond
- 64 Claim on income
- 65 Craze
- 66 Cruise ship
- 67 Terminates

DOWN

- 1 Feeling of dread
- 2 Land's end?
- 3 Couples
- 4 Germ-free
- 5 Bull's-eye

- 6 Harvest
- 7 1997 Indy winner
- 8 Sagacious
- 9 Jump
- 10 Speakers' sound
- 11 Destiny
- 12 Wedding vow
- 13 Heavy weight
- 21 Neither fem. nor masc.
- 22 Listening devices
- 25 Frighten
- 26 Peripheral
- 27 H.S. jr.'s exams
- 29 Manipulating
- 30 Fly constellation
- 31 Saltpeter
- 32 \$ percentages
- 33 Glow
- 34 Shriller or Callas
- 35 ___ we all?
- 39 ___-de-lance
- 40 Octopus arm
- 42 Lima's land

- 43 Nota
- 45 Magnetic flux density units
- 46 Comic Phyllis
- 49 One more time
- 50 Healed
- 51 Adolescents
- 53 Sledgehammer
- 54 Oscar-winner of 1936
- 55 Actress Moran
- 56 Unit cost
- 57 Keebler's Ernie, e.g.
- 58 Sri Lankan export
- 59 Help out



THE ARTS

FILM REVIEW

Can You See?

Minority Report's Dark and Intriguing Future

By Amy Meadows

STAFF WRITER

Minority Report

Directed by Steven Spielberg.

Produced by Gerald R. Molen, Bonnie Curtis, Walter F. Parkes, and Jan Bont.

Starring Tom Cruise, Colin Farrell, Samantha Morton, and Lois Smith.

Rated PG-13, 140 minutes.

Can you see?" Can you see a future where clairvoyants decide who will commit a crime and who won't? Can you see a future driven by the assumption of guilt and the absence of innocence? The filmmakers ask throughout *Minority Report*, "Can you see?"

Tom Cruise stars as futuristic police chief John Anderton. In 2054, there is no crime; there is only intent to commit crime. With the help of clairvoyants called "precogs," the pre-crime division of police captures criminals before they even are able to commit their crime. And the precogs are never wrong.

Imagine, then, Anderton's horror when the precogs pin a murder on him, to be committed in 36 hours. Unwilling to believe that he can be guilty, he sets out on a desperate search to uncover the truth about himself and pre-crime. He runs; as the trailer claims, "Everybody runs."

Anderton is searching for a little-known "minority report," the rare occasion when one of the three precogs will disagree with the other two. The copies of the reports are destroyed, the only record remaining in the mind of the precog.

Cruise carries the movie by himself. In fact, if some movies are star vehicles, *Minority Report* is Tom Cruise's Humvee limousine. The camera zooms in on Cruise's face for all but perhaps fifteen minutes out of the one hundred and forty. Yet, Cruise is not the unblemished action star of *Mission Impossible*, but a troubled leader, with secrets and a past he strains to hold onto.

For their brief appearances, some of the supporting actors show a subtlety that Cruise cannot risk. Samantha Morton plays Agatha, a tormented precog. When she is pulled from her constant electrolyte bath by a frantic Anderton, and away from her constant visions of the future, she can hardly believe that what she sees is the present. Wanting someone to know what she sees and experiences, Agatha constantly asks Anderton, "Can you see?"

As a reclusive scientist who switched from taking care of drug babies who became precogs to engineering humanoid plants, Lois Smith adds to the dark undercurrent of *Minority Report*. She alerts Anderton to the possibility that the precogs have been wrong, a terrifying possibility for Anderton, considering the hundreds of people who were jailed on the assumption of guilt.

Minority Report is an incredibly sleek movie; Steven Spielberg, the director, could probably make a milk commercial seem sexy and intriguing. The special effects, including cars that travel vertically and police equipped with rocket packs, add to the gripping drama. The editing is fast-paced and engaging, and the sets are themselves a frightening view of the future, with a contrast between the sterile crime lab and the seedy underworld that thrives in spite of government invasion and intervention.

Although *Minority Report* deals with perplexing ethical issues, several remaining issues in the filmmaking make it difficult to fully grasp the significance and meaning. One is the constant stream of product placement. Every company from Gap to Nokia has a plug somewhere in the movie. Used to emphasize the 1984-like invasion of privacy by public institutions, the constant stream is annoying and detracts from the movie. The other problem is that, in classic Spielberg fashion, the ending is uplifting. Not that this is a problem in and of itself, but the ethical questions are simply answered by the ending. Relatively few Americans will go home to ponder the implications of pre-crime and a society without due process.

Minority Report is a sleek, futuristic Tom Cruise and Steven Spielberg tag-team. With dark undercurrents but a happy ending, the two cinematic forces are forced to compromise.

FILM REVIEW

Lilo & Stitch

Likeable Disney Fare

By Fred Choi

STAFF WRITER

Written and directed by Chris Sanders and Dean DeBlois.

Voices by Chris Sanders, Daveigh Chase, Tia Carrere, Ving Rhames, David Ogden Stiers, Jason Scott Lee, and Zoe Caldwell.

Rated PG.

There were many reasons to anticipate Disney's latest animated release, *Lilo and Stitch*. After a long string of decidedly dull traditionally animated movies, *Lilo and Stitch* looked like something new and unique. The PG rating, a rarity among Disney animated movies, suggested the possibility the movie would feature more substance than so many recent ones relying solely on a formulaic plot, snappy one-liners, slapstick comedy, and pop culture allusions.

Despite some truly admirable intentions, however, *Lilo and Stitch* disappoints by only hinting at the movie it could have been. The movie opens with a few adroit minutes of exposition in the form of a sci-fi scene in which a rotund mad scientist (voiced by the versatile Disney veteran, David Ogden Stiers, with a Russian accent) is tried before the Grand Council, led by the Grand Councilwoman (authoritatively voiced by Zoe Caldwell). The scientist has broken laws governing genetic experimentation and his creation, "Experiment 626," is a virtually indestructible, powerful, and highly intelligent six-legged and antennae blue beast. Experiment 626 (given a memorably manic voice by Chris Sanders to match frenetic animation by Alex Kupersmidt) is programmed to destroy everything in sight, and the scientist is sentenced to imprisonment and the animal to termination. Experiment 626 escapes, and crash-lands on Earth, prompting the Grand Councilwoman to send the scientist and another alien to retrieve him.

The film moves quickly through the rest of the colorful opening sequence, which shows Lilo (pronounced "LEE-loh"), the movie's young heroine, and her failed interactions with her peers and her older sister Nani. Lilo (voiced by the very talented, eleven-year-old Daveigh Chase) is alternately violent, sullen, purposefully uncooperative, and quietly sad and we soon learn that her behavior is due to difficulties dealing with the

death of her parents and having to adjust to her older sister as guardian. The scene in which Lilo and Nani (sensitively voiced by Wayne's World's Tia Carrere) argue and eventually reconcile achieves a realism and emotional charge rarely seen in popular film or theater, let alone in a Disney movie.

The opening of the movie is certainly worth seeing, with its sci-fi scenes filled with smooth, fast action complemented by the emotion in the scenes with Lilo and Nani. Unfortunately the movie refuses to go far enough in the latter realm and instead almost immediately returns to more familiar ground. Nani is visited by a burly *Man In Black*-esque social worker (Ving Rhames) who tells her she has three days to prove that she is able to provide the care that Lilo requires.

Experiment 626 seeks refuge in a pound and is taken home by Lilo, who thinks he is merely a funny-looking dog and names him Stitch. The rest of the movie is set up for plot twists reminiscent of *E.T.* Lilo and Stitch become friends and Lilo shares her love for Elvis as Nani desperately attempts to prove herself, her efforts thwarted regularly by Stitch's sadistic bend towards chaos and destruction and his attempts to elude his would-be captors.

Despite the glibness of the majority of the film, there are several key scenes which manage to give it some saving substance. Echoing *A.I.*, Stitch learns new emotions from Lilo, including a regard for the movie's buzzword, the Hawaiian value of "ohana," that is, "family," a word in the movie that is

almost always accompanied by the warm Hallmark refrain, "Nobody gets left behind." Stitch also comes across the story of "The Ugly Duckling," which prompts him to wonder if there are more like him, and also begins to seek out more occupations than his penchant towards wanton destruction.

The emotional loneliness of Stitch and his eventual desperation to be part of a family, matched only by Lilo's desperation for a companion, is never fully realized, which is a pity because of the bizarre wackiness of the flashy, madcap final sequence. These fantastic scenes, in which the familiar reality of the Hawaiians collides with the sci-fi world of the aliens, leave an odd aftertaste that would have been more effective if accompanied by a grittier realism in the other scenes.

Still, despite these shortcomings and the too-humanoid depiction of the aliens, a plethora of details make *Lilo and Stitch* a welcome change and a pleasant reminder that classic two-dimensional animation still has much to offer: Energetic and sometimes emotional scenes, a lack of formulaic "What I Want" and "I Love You So Much" songs, a more realistic visual depiction of females (although the solidness of their tree trunk-like legs goes a little too far in the other direction), an exploration of sibling relationships, and a worthwhile incorporation of Elvis tunes, not to mention a nicely put-together Flash website and an only peripheral inclusion of a romantic relationship, leave us only to wonder how much longer it will be before Disney ups the ante again.



Lilo tries to teach Stitch to be a model citizen like The King.

ALBUM REVIEW

K's Choice

Almost Happy

By Akshay Patil

STAFF WRITER

K's Choice

Almost Happy

May 7, 2002

The new album from K's Choice is a delightful musical romp through the amazing talent possessed by the Belgian band. While lacking some of the emotion and punch of previous albums, *Almost Happy* is full of soul-searching and bitter love songs, all set to soothing melodies and the sweet voice of lead singer Sarah Bettens.

For fans, *Almost Happy* may be best marked as the album that finally contains the studio version of the title track. Knowing it well as a live song, we finally are able to hear a fully polished version of the song that does not fail to please.

"Almost Happy" sets the tone of the album as a softer production. Previous albums included such stand-outs as "Everything For Free" and "Not an Addict" with harder guitar tracks and emphasis on issues other than the all-too-common love song. "Almost Happy," on the other hand, embraces a theme of bitter love which permeates the tracks and manifests itself in such titles as "Busy," "Almost Happy," and "Tired."

The songs of *Almost Happy* form a cohesive album, which is refreshing in a time when emphasis seems to be placed more on singles than on albums. That being said, the album doesn't have any real direction. It serves as an exploration of the emotions that surround and envelop us at the end of a relationship, but there is no ending message, no moral or philosophical conclusion to the adventure we embark on with the band. The closest we get to such an ending is a final bonus song in the last track called "Already There." Here we hear a quiet tribute to a dead loved one, admitting all things come to an end.

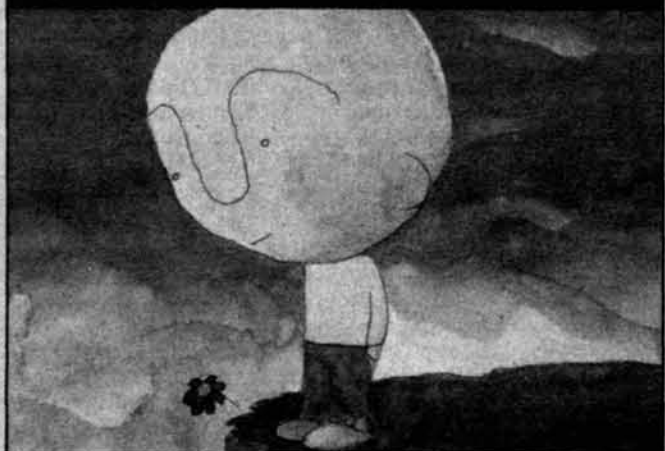
The album is deceptive; at first listen it seems like an album without singles. No songs truly stand out on their own to merit

their own personal listening. Slowly one comes to realize this is because while all the songs are capable of existing in solitude, they find additional strength in the context of the album. They all fall well into the style of K's Choice; they are all unique tracks, but share many similar stylistic elements and certain sounds.

One of the kickers for *Almost Happy* is that it comes with a second CD of live material, originally a separate album released in Europe and entitled *Live*. The live material is nothing spectacular, but it is an appreciable bonus. Many of the band's earlier hits are performed on the second CD, making the package a plausible starting place for the beginning fan.

Almost Happy won't shock you. It won't give you a new outlook on life. But as the newest release for a band making its way up the ladders of musical success, one could really not ask for more. The music is not only abundant, but solid as well. You could do much worse with your time and your money.

K'S CHOICE
Almost Happy



GAME REVIEW

Morrowind

Hardcore, But Not Like Before

By Chad Serrant

STAFF WRITER

Morrowind

Published by Bethesda

For the PC, Microsoft Xbox

\$49.99

Morrowind has little in common with other RPGs. This game is for the patient, as it offers a lot of control and freedom not found in other games of this genre.

Morrowind uses the first few minutes of the game to make character creation easy. The player starts as a recently released prisoner. At first, the player is locked into first-person view and can't even walk. The introductory sequence gives instructions on basic travel. It also gets to the character generator. There are several races to play, each with its own advantages and disadvantages.

The real decisions arise when it's time to choose a class. There are 21 predefined classes that range from the brutish warrior to the intelligent mage. The predefined classes get the job done, but hardcore fans use the customized class option, which sets up the character's skills, defining how the character should play the rest of the game.

Thirty skills are divided into three categories: Strength, Magic and Stealth. Each class specializes in a particular skill category. The character places the skills into major, minor and miscellaneous categories. Improving skill is as simple as using the skill—the more times it is used the more it improves.

The island of Vvardenfell is filled with political intrigue. The player can join the fighter, mage, and thief guilds and political houses to work for them. Each has its own jobs, pitfalls, and rewards, and as the player gains favor with one group he loses favor with another. The game is morally ambiguous, as every major player in the game has its good side and bad side, and there is no definitive "good" way.

Most of the many side quests in the game involve escorting, delivering, and searching for items. A few of them are assassinations. Regardless of the type of mission, they almost always involve some combat.

Ironically, combat is one of the most boring parts of Morrowind. While there are different ways to attack an enemy (chop, stab or slash,) they rely on clicking the mouse button while moving. This motion has to be performed several times per battle, and it gets annoying very quickly. The "Always use best attack" option takes care of this, but the battle degrades into



Morrowind boasts rich graphics, including shadows and falling rain.

obsessive Diablo-style clicking (not Diablo II-style; you can hold down the mouse button.)

Magic users get to choose from a variety of spells they have prepared, and have to click a lot less often. Magic guilds and temples sell spells. Once a spell is learned it can be used to create custom spells. Enchanting weapons and armor becomes possible as well, although the process is a bit expensive.

This game has some flaws, though. Not all skills are created equally, and poorly chosen skills can lead to poor characters, forcing people to restart. The conversation system with the island's residents has problems as well. You can speak to thousands of characters, but most of what they say is the same. Trying to convince people to say more is supposed to depend on the speechcraft skill.

Those are a few of the gameplay problems. The software itself is rather buggy. Making Morrowind crash is as simple as pressing two keys at the same time. Sometimes even mouse clicks can disable the Bethesda Behemoth. Even the Xbox version has problems with people and creatures slowly drifting away. On a console system these kinds of bugs are simply unacceptable. How will Xbox owners get a patch? The Xbox isn't a PC (no, really, it isn't). I hope Bethesda will have an add-on disc with the patches on it.

Morrowind requires a powerful computer to run its amazing graphics. Shadows are cast, draw distances are far, and the rain actually lands on ground, making a splash texture. But some of the character animations are stiff, and several monster models are overused (if I see another Cliff Racer...). Speaking of overused, Morrowind needs more than 2 music tracks. Regardless of how many tracks the collector edition's music CD claims to have, only a few songs will stick in your head. It's a good thing music can easily be imported into Morrowind.

Morrowind promises at least 100 hours of gameplay. But this is only for those who are patient enough to withstand the bugs and look over (or abuse) the broken skill system. This game is open enough to allow you to do almost whatever you want.

GAME REVIEW

Neverwinter Nights

D&D on the PC Never Looked so Good

By Chad Serrant

STAFF WRITER

Neverwinter Nights

Published by Atari

For the PC

\$54.99

Dungeons and Dragons has entertained for several decades, and hasn't changed much from its pen-and-paper application. Many computer games have tried to create games that use D&D rules. Neverwinter Nights manages to create a very enjoyable game, but it is not flexible enough to satisfy the hardcore D&D addicts.

Because Neverwinter Nights uses D&D's third edition rules, character creation is very flexible. Each race has an advantage, even the humans. Character classes can be easily mixed and matched, too. Magic blasting, trap finding wizard/rogue? No problem. Fighting and healing fighter/cleric? Easy. Of course, just being a monk or a paladin is fine.

The game's interface is easy to navigate. Right-clicking the mouse brings up context-sensitive menus that let you talk, unlock, examine, or attack. To reduce the number of clicks, one can set commands to the function keys. If that's still not enough, holding down shift or control reveals another twenty-four commands available. Great for spellcasters. Maps are easy to look at, although I would like to move the map view around the screen. Sometimes the map blocks part of the action.

Luckily, the game's graphics engine is strong enough to avoid this problem. The game uses 3D all the way and allows camera rotation and zooming options. The view always points toward the ground, so viewing the ceiling is impossible. But besides that minor point, the camera couldn't be better.

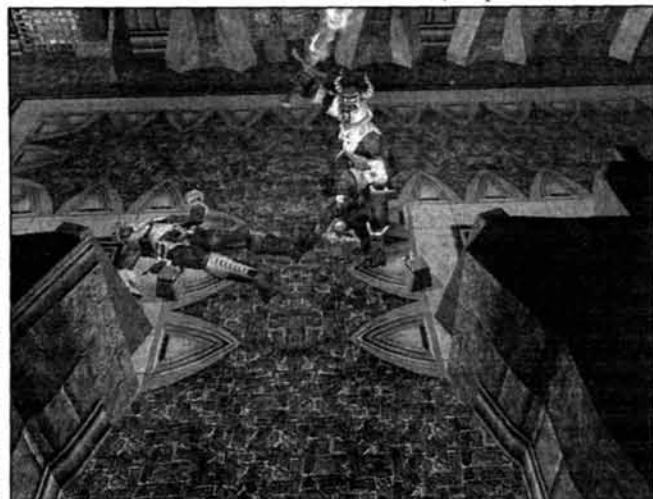
The game does a decent job with the graphics. The shadow effects are great, as multiple lights will create multiple shadows that stretch and fade with distance. The models are a bit on the low detail side, but they get the job done. The requirements aren't too steep, so I'm not complaining.

The sound is fantastic. The music definitely fits the fantasy setting, and battle music starts and ends at the appropriate moments. The voice acting is very good. While they couldn't cover every line of text, they cover a lot. The monster sound effects are sparse, though.

The single-player experience is a bit misleading and betrays the spirit of D&D. A plague spreads through the city of Neverwinter, and it's up to the player to find a cure. There are a few turns here and there, and the story is very satisfying. The gameplay has a few flaws, however. First of all, the mission is played as a single character. D&D is usually played in parties of at least three. Next, the player can hire a henchman and can use a stone of recall to teleport to

the temple for healing and supplies. Diablo II anyone? Admittedly, it's a bit difficult to play as a single character. They should make the game a little easier for one character to go through, or allow the player to hire more than one henchman. While they're at it, they should make the AI better so they don't try to cast spells right in front of the enemy (provokes an attack of opportunity).

Of course there are other parts of D&D that Neverwinter Nights does not implement at all. There is no concept of multiple heights, making jumping and flying impossible. So aerial combat is out the window. There is no mounted combat either, so paladins lose their



CHAD SERRANT—THE TECH

A Neverwinter avatar faces off with a mammoth opponent.

mount (in exchange for more remove diseases spells.) Transformations and summons are limited to specific creatures. Power Attack is limited to either +5 or +10 bonuses (you need a feat for each of them). My personal gripe is the inability to play monster races as player characters. Hardcore D&D fans will notice details missing from the game, so don't expect this to replace the pen and paper experience anytime soon.

The multiplayer aspects are great. GameSpy's game matching lists current games and lets you search through them. People put in their custom areas and let player characters have fun. I entered several areas that weren't complete but were gradually improved on a day-to-day basis. The multiplayer aspects form a nice community for everyone. As for cheating, well, boosting stats is ridiculously easy if you're the DM, so there's no fun in cheating, and it isn't very wide spread.

The Aurora Toolset is included with the game. It is very powerful, as it allows you to use the built-in game art to draw your own worlds. To do anything complicated, though, people have to know the scripting language, which is in C. Luckily, there is a huge developer community that roams the forums, so information spreads quickly.

Neverwinter Nights manages to prove something: Some things shouldn't change. Hardcore D&D fans who thought that this game would end pen-and-paper RPGs are wrong, as it doesn't implement all the rules. But for those who don't mind not playing the mind flayer psionic, or those who don't even care about D&D, this game provides a highly enjoyable experience that should last for quite a while.

GAME REVIEW

Tactics Ogre: The Knight of Lodis

The Calm Before the Storm

By Chad Serrant

STAFF WRITER

Tactics Ogre: The Knight of Lodis

Published by Atlus

For the Nintendo Game Boy Advance

\$39.99

As the remaining members of game developer Quest have joined Squaresoft, I am left wondering about the future. Quest has developed the excellent Ogre Battle and Tactics Ogre series, yet only Squaresoft's clone, Final Fantasy Tactics, receives any recognition. If Quest can keep up the same gameplay found in Tactics Ogre: The Knight of Lodis, they should do just fine. Hopefully Squaresoft can give them some money to update the gameplay, though.

The game revolves around turn-based tactical combat. Use a squad of eight characters and battle other teams consisting of bandits, beasts,

nobility, and otherworldly creatures. This game requires more than just high-level characters in order to win. Unlike other role-playing games, positioning plays a very important role in the game.

Different character classes have different movement rates. Heavy armor means that the knights can't travel very far. Ninjas can travel very far and are good at jumping up and falling down cliffs. Wizards are pretty clumsy, cannot travel far and have trouble jumping. So if the ninjas charge ahead and the knights jump up the steep cliff, the wizards are left behind and are sitting ducks.

Attacking is also important. Because attacked people automatically counterattack, it is wise to attack from behind. Ranged spells can hit multiple opponents, but the caster must make sure none of his allies are hit in the blast. Everyone generates ten magic points during their turn, so those with powerful spells can cast

them indefinitely during a match, provided they wait long enough.

Every human starts off as a lowly soldier and changes classes when his stats are high enough. Knights, Valkyries and dragoons are the brute force types. Ninjas and swordmasters are the fast fighters. Archers are good at sniping far-away foes. Wizards and sirens depend on magic to blast their opponents, while clerics use their magic to heal. Beast masters and dragon tamers find it easier to recruit beasts and dragons. Finally, the warlock and witch classes use support magic to aid their allies and confuse their enemies. The large choice of classes gives players several possibilities for their army.

There are also several races. Fairies are useful in this game, as they cure status ailments and allow characters to move twice per round. Hawkmen and angel knights can fly, giving them a great tactical advantage. Mermaids are great while submerged in water. There are also beasts and dragons that can grow stronger and even transform. The problem with the other races is that they can't gain class levels like humans can.

The story features Alphonse Loehner, a knight sent to the island of Ovis to help the southern part of the island fight the northern army. Any Ogre Battle fan knows that the conflict is much greater than that; the story has political and religious conflict, and the player's decisions affect the story (much more than

Golden Sun's decisions affected the story, mind you). The story is shorter than Ogre Battle 64's massive encyclopedia of a story.

Tactics Ogre: The Knight of Lodis adds an emblem system. Your characters get emblems for performing certain tasks. Some are easy to get, like Knight's Certificate, while other emblems like Relix's Emblem (when one human has been in all 14 classes) are pretty tough to get. Overall you won't notice them. Perhaps you'll use them for the two-player trade option, as there are some emblems you can only get by fighting another human opponent.

The graphics for this game seem a bit dated. Few colors are used, and the units still use a walking animation in-between rounds. There are no shadows or lighting, and most area effect spells are animated to hit one spot at a time. There are no options to skip the summon animations, so I had hoped they would be prettier. The sounds are above average, but the Game Boy Advance has much better music capabilities.

This game will last at least 30 hours, and that's if you rush to see the story. You'll have to play again to see the other endings. And again for the other unique characters you couldn't find before. And again to train your army so you can beat your friend's army. So maybe it will take a bit more than 30 hours. Let's hope the next Ogre game has more options, more colorful graphics and less chocobos.

Faculty Panel Establishes Values for MIT

Research, from Page 1

of export control provisions to university researchers, and a growing pressure to treat research results as sensitive create a new landscape for faculty, students, and MIT as an institution," according to the report, entitled "In the Public Interest."

"The Provost was really looking into the future" when he called for the formation of this committee, Friedman said.

Report establishes values for MIT

"The fundamental mission of MIT rests upon four values: unfettered transmission of knowledge through educational activities, creation of new knowledge through

research and other scholarly activities, service to the nation, and service to humanity," the authors of the report wrote.

"If we compromised [education and openness], we would be doing a disservice" to the community," Friedman said. "Educating the future of the nation" is itself a service to the nation, he said.

The report calls for MIT to continue to provide access for faculty to off-campus facilities for classified research, such as the Lincoln Laboratory, which is managed by the Institute.

Roger W. Sudbury SM '63, Assistant to the Director of the Lincoln Laboratory, said the number of faculty conducting research at the facility was small, "in the

tens."

Sudbury said that while several students are involved with research at the Lincoln Lab, "we are very careful to make sure" that none of the thesis work is classified.

MIT also has ties to several other facilities where classified research can be carried out, including the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory in Cambridge.

The report also hinted at the possible establishment of a new facility for biological research.

"It is not too hard to imagine a future Lincoln Laboratory-like entity conducting classified biologically related research in the Boston area," the panel wrote.

The committee also took up the subject of "sensitive" information

— "Because there is no consistent understanding or definition of what would constitute 'sensitive' information, MIT should continue its policy of not agreeing to any sponsor's contractual request that research results ... be reviewed for the inadvertent disclosure of 'sensitive' information." Additionally, MIT should "not restrict any students from access to any course, on-campus seminar, or other similar forum."

The committee included Widnall, Friedman, Director of the Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems Vincent W.S. Chan '71, Chair of the Faculty Stephen C. Graves, and Director of the Security Studies Program Harvey M. Sapolsky.

Council Protests Federal Policies

Sanctuary, from Page 1

or deportation of refugees accused of violating immigration laws.

The new resolution also asks local, federal and state law enforcement to avoid "racial profiling or detention without charges," and requests that the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Office of the FBI report to the Cambridge Human Rights Commission on their actions under the USA PATRIOT Act, a piece of antiterrorist legislation signed into law by President Bush on Oct. 26, 2001.

Since the resolution cannot force any citizens to break existing laws, it serves largely to protest the act and related Federal Executive Orders issued since the act's passage. Several Massachusetts towns have also passed similar resolutions. The act was passed by the Senate by a vote of 98-1 and by the House of Representatives by a vote of 356-66. Four of the 66 Representatives who voted against the act are from Massachusetts.

Act expanded federal powers

Among other changes, the USA PATRIOT Act expanded federal power established in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to seize and monitor any information or exchanges of information deemed potentially related to terrorism. Its amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act and the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 broadly define terrorist activity and terrorist organizations and enable the Secretary of State to designate activity or groups as such.

Under the act, the detention of suspected terrorists and FBI access to medical, financial and educational records, can occur in the absence of official charges against the individuals. The act limits the power of courts to review the legality and constitutionality of such actions through habeas corpus law and judicial review.

The act also expanded the jurisdiction of the Foreign Student Visa Monitoring Program (FSVMP) described in the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, to include "any air flight school, language training school, or vocational school" in addition to established elementary and high schools, conservatories, seminars, universities and colleges. The FSVMP affects international students, some of whom have been called home or have faced difficulty renewing visas after the Sept. 11 tragedy.

The protection of the federal government as described in the USA PATRIOT Act extends to U.S. citizens. The text of the act states that "the civil rights and civil liberties of all Americans, including Arab Americans, Muslim Americans, and Americans from South Asia, must be protected, and that every effort must be taken to preserve their safety."

However, the Cambridge City Council resolution states that "the Bill of Rights and the Constitution of Massachusetts guarantee those living in the United States," citizens and non-citizens, the same civil rights.

Boston Globe Jazz and Blues Festival



The Boston Globe Jazz and Blues Festival featured 20 bands at locations around Boston June 15-23. Top left: Project Logic saxophonist Casey Benjamin rips a sweet solo as (bottom right) DJ Logic works the crowd. Bottom left: Cambridge native and five-time Grammy nominee Nnenna Freelon performs a tribute to Stevie Wonder at the Hatch Shell on Saturday. Top Right: Several thousand people gathered to hear the final concert on the Esplanade. Right: Grammy winning artist Branford Marsalis and his band headlined at the free concert that culminated the week of music.

Photography by Daniel R. Bersak



Got news?

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